

HEAVY METAL

YOUR HARD MUSIC AUTHORITY

Prayer Chain

Also: Tourniquet, Rob Walker, King's X,
Fell Venus, Tamplin, Johnny Q. Public,
Neon Cross, XT,
Three Crosses,



Win
This
Guitar!
Type O
Negative,
& much,
much more!



A STRYPER TRIBUTE

(see page 91)

THIS IS REALLY STRANGE!



THERE'S NO CRUD IN THIS GUY'S FINGER TIPS!

You're probably wondering, "How can that be, Charlie? How come there's none of those industrial, brown-green skid marks in this guy's finger tips like I always have in mine?" Simple. My American-made **CHARLIE STRINGER'S SNARLING DOGS** nickel and Nuclear Nickel electric guitar and bass strings and my **CHARLIE STRINGER'S UNPLUGGED** phosphor bronze acoustic strings are so reasonably priced that, like our double-digit buddy above, you can now afford to change your strings on a regular basis without having to pledge an important piece of your anatomy as collateral. Your fingers stay clean; your strings stay bright.

So before you worry about how much unidentifiable crust will fly off your strings when you hit your next power chord, switch over to **CHARLIE STRINGER'S SNARLING DOGS** and **UNPLUGGED** strings. Pleasure is just a music store away.

Colossus, King of Offers

Send \$16 for a set of **SNARLING DOGS** Nickel strings and a SD Tee with 2-sided Michelangelo-Quality art or \$18 for a set of **SNARLING DOGS** Nuclear Nickel strings and the SD Tee. Or send \$16 for a set of **UNPLUGGED** acoustic strings and **UNPLUGGED** Tee with cool **UNPLUGGED** art on the front. Choose SD Metal: Nickel____, Nuclear Nickel____. Choose SD Gauge (circle one): K-9's (9-42), Rin-10-10's (10-46), UNP Gauge: 10's, 12's or 13's. Choose LG or XLG Tee. Add \$4 S&H. Act now and get a bottle of my Tasmanian Buff Master and Filth Repellent Guitar Polish, **FREE!** That's a \$3.95 value! Offer void outside US. Sorry, it's a postal thing. Make sure to include your address so I don't send your strings to some place like Peoria or Tanjungkarang.

Send your payment and order to: Stringer Industries, Inc. PO Box 4241 Dept. HM, Warren, NJ 07059 Charlie Stringer's, Snarling Dogs, Nuclear Nickel, Unplugged, and Tasmanian Buff Master and Filth Repellent are trademarks of Charlie Stringer Industries, Inc., so please don't rip me off. Colossus is a trademark of the Ben Hur Leadership Council. Michelangelo is a trademark of the Vatican Institute for Inverted Artists. Thanks for the order and drop me a line if you can. I'm lonely. Suggested list prices: **Snarling Dogs** Nickel: \$6.95 * SD Nuclear Nickels: \$8.45 and **UNPLUGGEDS**: \$7.95, all BH (Before Hagglng). Charlie Stringer's Strings is a subsidiary of Stringer Industries Inc., Internationally known for it's obscurity. Charlie created this ad all by himself. Charlie's cheap.

Charlie Stringer's Strings

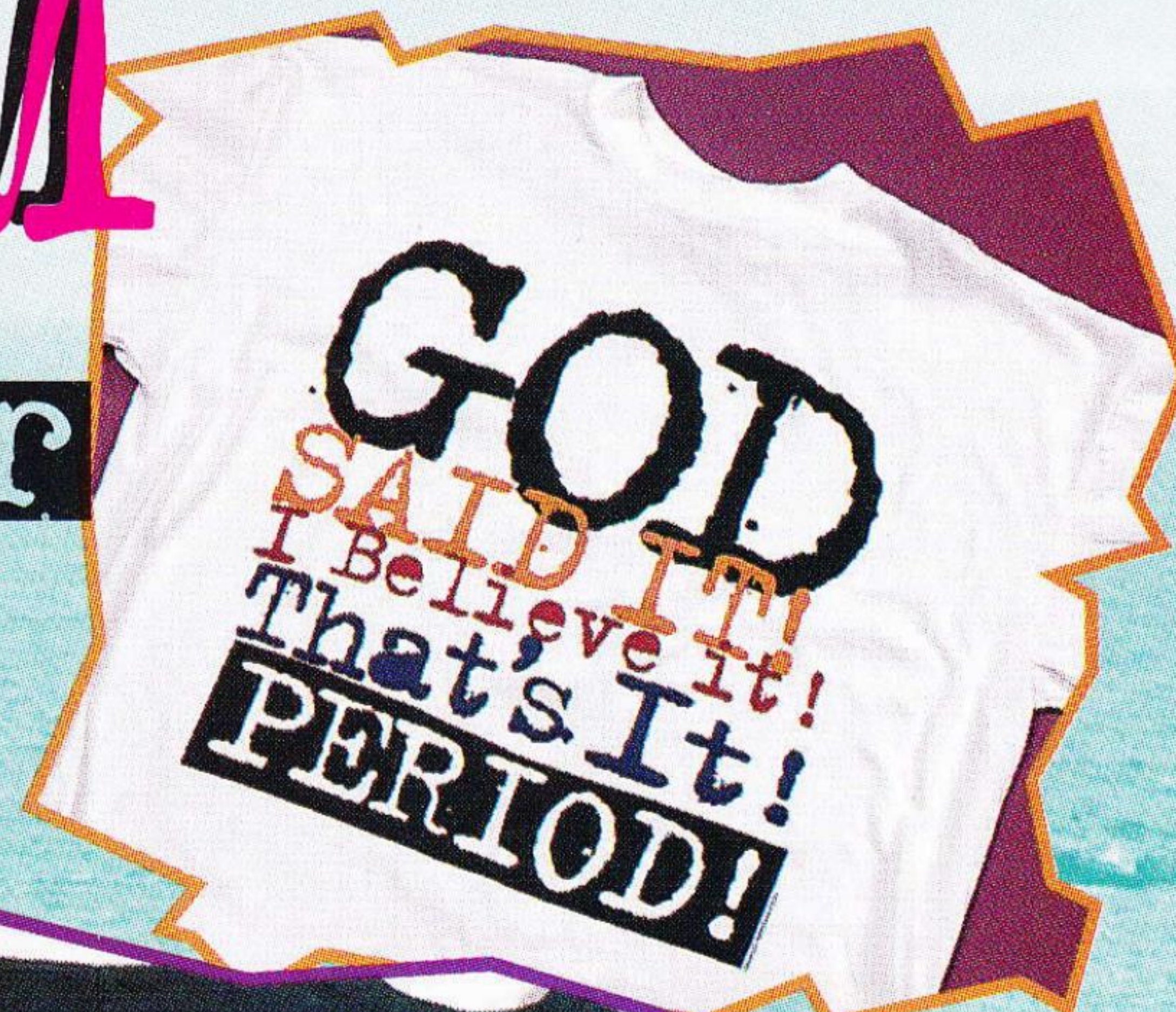
Phn: 908-469-2828

FAX: 908-469-2882.

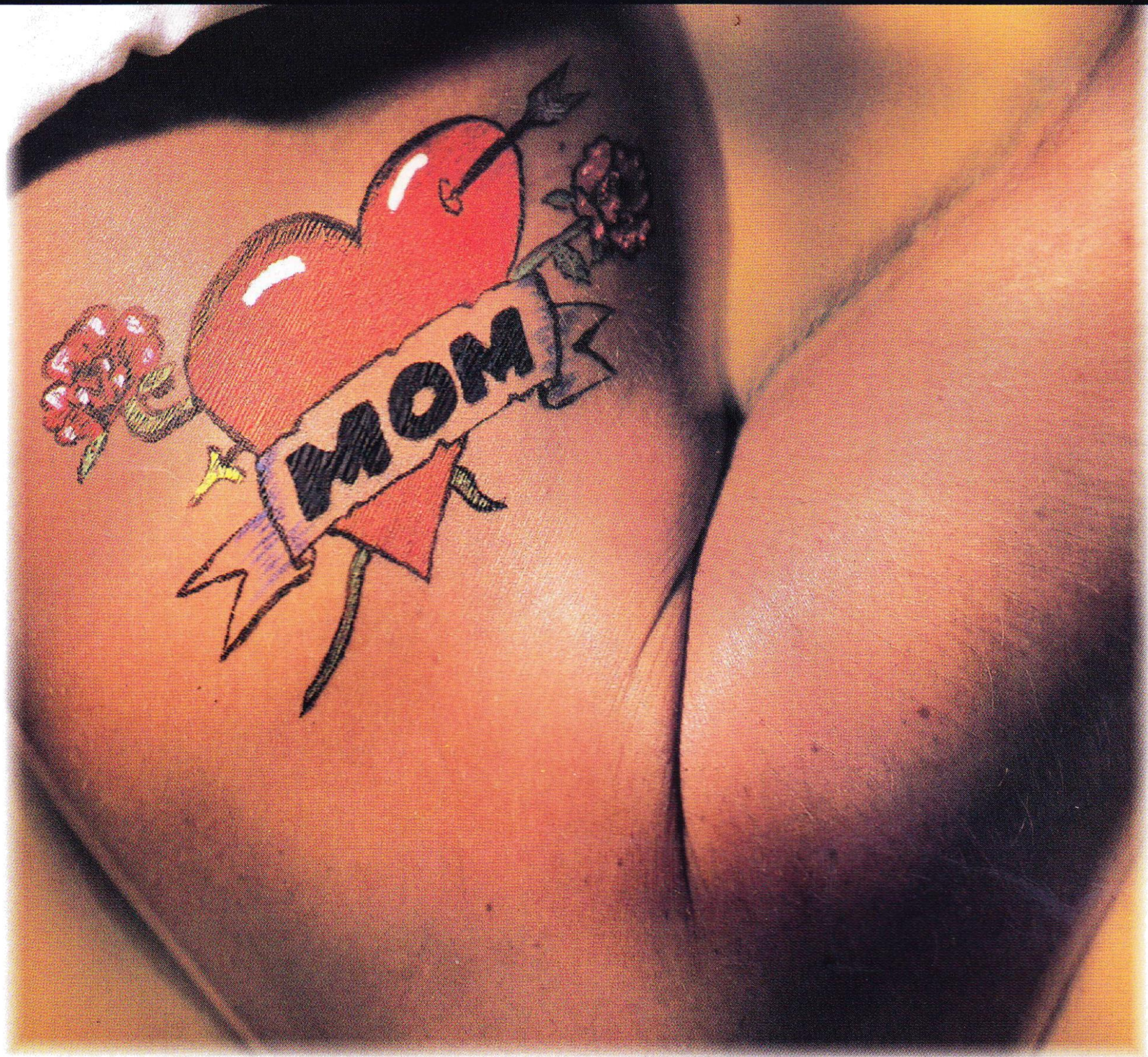
Retailers: See us at NAMM, Booth 3242



Truth & WAIMM
available at your
local Christian
bookstore!

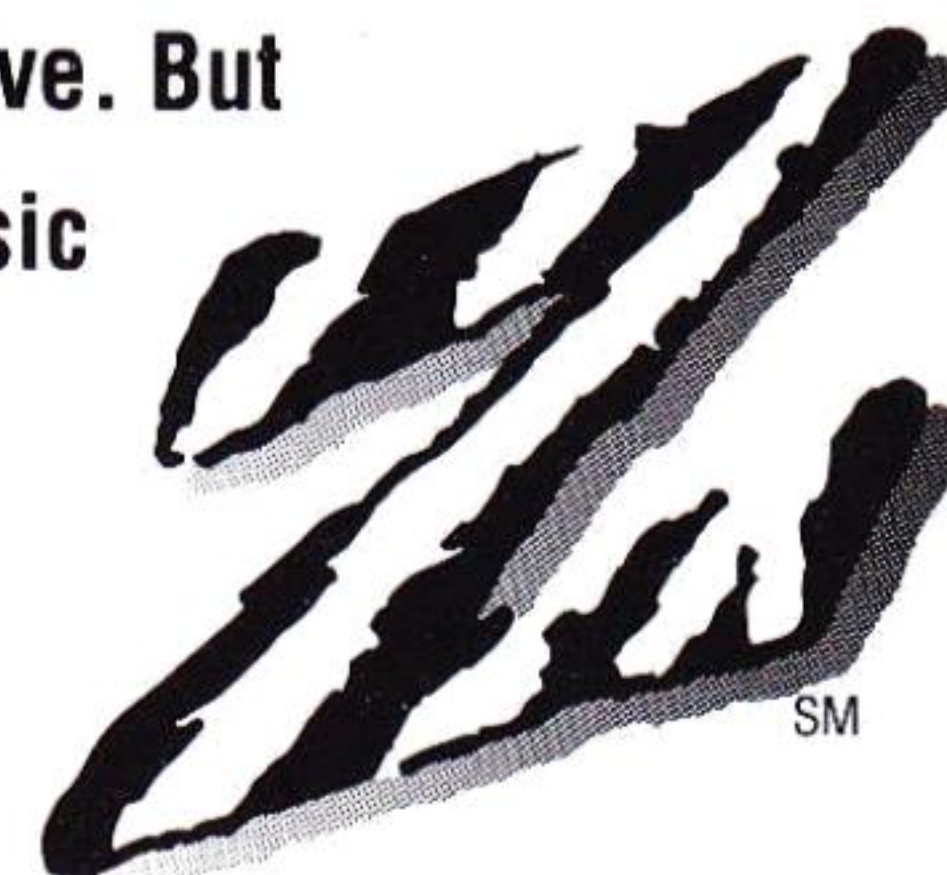


There's only one other place
to get this much positive reinforcement
24 hours a day.



With all the media attention on sex, crime and violence, it seems like all you hear is the negative. But we believe positive messages make a difference in people's lives. That's why we created Z Music Television, the world's only 24-hour contemporary Christian music video network. Z offers entertaining videos with positive values representing all styles of contemporary Christian music. We also air "Brimstone Chronicles," the only show devoted entirely to metal and alternative Christian music videos.

If you don't have Z Music Television on your cable lineup...call your cable operator and ask for it today! And prepare yourself for positive results.



MUSIC
TELEVISION

HEAVEN'S METAL

YOUR HARD MUSIC AUTHORITY

May/June '95

Issue #53



8 THE PRAYER CHAIN Read what the members of The Prayer Chain had to say to Brent Hershey in one of the most honest interviews in HM history.

12 TOURNIQUET Why did these guys release another recording so soon? Brent Hershey finds out what the Tourniquet boys are up to.

14 THREE CROSSES HM writer Randy Rocker talks Southern rock shop with these good ole' boys from New Jersey...?

15 TAMPLIN Besides making albums and jingles for Ford and Rush Limbaugh, Ken Tamplin finds time to talk music with David Muttillio.

18 JOHNNY Q. PUBLIC Contrary to what their name might imply, these guys are no ordinary joes. Andrew Crump catches up with this new Gotee Records band.

20 FELL VENUS Dan MacIntosh interviews this man called Venus, and finds out he's a bit weird-looking... who? Venus?

21 CLASH OF SYMBOLS Ex-Altar Boy Mike Stand chats with Chris Callaway about what makes this band special.

22 NEON CROSS HM writer and fellow West Coast resident, Dan MacIntosh finds out what makes this veteran band's light still burn strong.

23 ROB WALKER Why a solo album? What about Wish For Eden? David Jenison finds out answers to these and other questions.

24 XT Swedish writer Staffan Gustafsson corners Bjorn Stigsson for the scoop on the band's third album.

26 STRYPER TRIBUTE As part of our tenth year in publishing, we tipped the hat to the four men who helped get Christian metal on everyone's map.

32 KING'S X Not much has been heard from the King's X camp since they toured *Dogman* and played Woodstock, so we picked up the phone to bug Doug...

36 METAL TRACKS Who's going in the studio, who's making movies, and who's having babies?

42 READER'S SURVEY Who are you? We have ways of finding out... and we've published the results.

50 PROFILE: T-SHIRTS What are you wearing right now? Chances are it's a Christian t-shirt. Find out more about this exploding part of the Christian lifestyle industry.

56 TYPE O NEGATIVE This issue our "What So & So Sez" feature brings us to the band that brought us the song "Christian Woman" from its *Bloody Kisses* album.

60 CONCERT REVIEWS Were the Jesus Freaks really that good opening the show during the Mortification tour? Is Barren Cross rusty or not? Find out.

REGULAR ELEMENTS:

- 6 LETTERS TO ED
- 62 ALBUM REVIEWS
- 77 TRADING POST
- 78 ARTIST BOOK REVIEWS
- 80 LICKS & TRICKS
- 83 THE CHRISTIAN & ART *
- 84 PASTOR BOB

HEAVEN'S METAL (ISSN 1066-6923) is published bi-monthly for \$12 per year by Heaven's Metal, 6614 Bradley Drive, Austin, TX 78723.

Second-Class Postage Paid at Austin, Texas and at additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Heaven's Metal, PO Box 17367, Austin, TX 78760-7367.

Printed in the United States
 Editor: Doug Van Pelt
 Assistant Editor: Brian McGovern
 Office Manager: Charlotta Van Pelt
 Contributing Editors: Bob Beeman,
 Kemper Crabb, Jeff Scheetz,
 Dale Thompson
 Contributing Writers: Chris Callaway,
 Andrew Crump, Paul Doty, Staffan
 Gustafsson, Brent Hershey,
 David Jenison, Jeff Lott, Dan MacIntosh,
 David Muttillio, Spiney Norman,
 Randy Rocker, Michael Tulloch,
 Charlotta Van Pelt.
 Subscription Manager: Marianne Fry
 Advertising Sales: Charles Gates
 Staff Photographers: Larry Bolen
 & Peter Petretta

Heaven's Metal
 mailing address:
 PO Box 17367
 Austin, Texas 78760-7367

Main office:
 6614 Bradley Drive
 Austin, Texas 78723

Advertising Sales: (512) 929-9278
 Customer Service: (512) 929-9278
 fax #: (512) 929-1950
 INTERNET: Heavenmetl@aol.com
 Compuserve: 74434,2465
 Trademark registration no. 052519
 Member Gospel Music Association

Scripture

"We need to hold on to our declaration of faith: We have a superior chief priest who has gone through the heavens. That person is Jesus, the Son of God. We have a chief priest who is able to sympathize with our weaknesses. He was tempted in every way that we are, but he didn't sin. So we can go confidently to the throne of God's kindness to receive mercy and find kindness, which will help us at the right time." (Hebrews 4:14-16)

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO HEAVEN'S METAL ARE \$12.
 Canadian subscriptions are \$17.
 Overseas subscriptions are \$27.
 (These prices are for paid subscriptions only. Subscriptions that are billed will cost \$15, \$20 or \$30, respectively.)
 If You Move... please send us a note with your old address and your new address at least six weeks in advance.

All contents copyright ©
 1995 Heaven's Metal Magazine, except where noted (*). Contents may not be reproduced in any manner, either whole or in part, without prior written permission.



HOLY WHO?

I love your magazine. It rocks for the King. I'd like to know: is Holy Soldier still a band? I had not heard anything of late.

--Tony Wilson
 Lyons, Georgia

(Ed -- It's funny that you should ask that question now, as the band has just signed a new contract with ForeFront Records and is recording a new album with long-time producer David Zaffiro and ex-temporary vocalist Eric Wayne as a permanent vocalist.)

HEAVY METAL ALIVE AND KICKING

Greetings in Jesus!! Lately, it seems as though I've been hearing a lot of complaining and/or comments about how hard rock/heavy metal has either changed, or died-off.

Actually, as far as my neck of the woods is concerned, I don't find this to be the case at all. As far as "secular" hard rock/metal goes -- sure, it's not heard as often as all of the Pearl Jam, Sound Garden, and Spin Doctors music is, but it's NOT DEAD BY ANY STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION!!!

Mansfield, which is only about 1/2 hour away from where I live, has a very lively metal following, as well as some of the clubs in the far North. One club in particular (Sadie Renee's, in Akron/Canton, if I remember correctly), blasts a "Heavy Metal Tuesday" every week, giving some of the best metal bands in Ohio an opportunity to crank! The club in Mansfield, Planet Earth, has hosted heavy metal bands several times, as well.

Even closer to my area still, is the local radio station, WRDL, 88.9 FM, which has a "Metal Madness!" night every week, as well as "Christian Metal Sunday's" (thank GOD!).

I just gets me, because a lot of people seem to think that, if hard rock/heavy metal is dying (or already "dead") in their area, then it MUST be the same everywhere else. NOT SO! Not that I would want to, but I can flip on that radio station (WRDL) and hear bands like Queensryche, Aerosmith, Guns 'n' Roses, Winger, Skid Row, Ozzy, AC/DC, Black Sabbath, etc....almost any time!

And why are so many born-again metalheads freaking out over Christian hard rock/metal dying-off?? I don't understand that at all. Is Christian hard rock/metal really dying? If you

think so, then you'd better take a second look: Red Sea, *Blood*; Lovewar, *Soak Your Brain*; Barren Cross, *Rattle Your Cage*; The Brave, *Trust*; Tamplin, *Tamplin*; Tourniquet, *Vanishing Lessons*; Whitecross, *Unveiled*; King James, *King James*; and Bride, *Scarecrow Messiah*, just to name a few...

And while Guardian has taken a breather from their hard rockin' vignettes (*Swing, Swang, Swung*), the band has already made it clear that they will jam hard once again.

Sardonyx is on hiatus, but still together. Veni Domine have released their second album. The band Arsenal (*Armed Choir*, 1990) has totally reformed and will soon put out their second album, as well. Weren't the bands, Neon Cross and Holy Soldier, also going to put out new albums?

In closing, I hope I haven't offended anyone who may disagree with me, and I can only ask that you would accept my sincere apologies if I have. How you choose to label the fore-mentioned bands is beside the point, seeing as how the term "heavy metal" means different things to different people. But, to say that hard rock/metal is dead? Sorry, but I don't agree. Like Doug has said before, "There will always be an audience for it."

--Ty Myers
 Perrysville, Ohio

TRACKS DON'T EXIST!

I was very disgusted with your article in the January/February issue regarding Michael Sweet's tour. I feel you were very judgmental regarding their BGV tracks, which you had no proof even existed. Both Nouveaux and Michael Sweet put on an excellent show when I saw them this past October. It was full of energy and sincerity. It was very unfair to condemn them for using BGV tracks, which I am sure many bands do while on tour. It seems to me that you were just looking for something negative to say about this tour. I notice that these artists are not on your favorite list! It is a shame when someone can pass judgement on a band to make them look bad when these bands have the ability to talk to a lot of people searching for Christ. I would encourage anyone who has not seen Michael Sweet or Nouveaux to do so. They are definitely worth seeing.

--Paula Jeffery
 Grand Rapids, Michigan

(ED -- Sorry you were so offended by my review. As in every critical review printed in HM, it is never our aim to judge an artist's anointing or

their impact to minister the Gospel. I believe our readers expect, though, an honest evaluation of a musical performance on a technical and emotional level.)

WHERE IS THE TRUTH?

After the first look at my HM #50, I literally fell in love with the Truth gear ad. Now, have you guessed my problem? Yep? OK, I understand it's "available at Christian book stores now," but what about the youth around the world who would like to buy and wear their gear? Why didn't they put a national address where the hundreds of overseas Christian youth could write and order the mega-cool modern clothing? Don't they have an international vision for their industry (and ministry)?

--Mark Every-Clayton
Zaventem, Belgium

(ED -- So glad you asked. As you will see in our T-shirt Profile this issue, each of the companies listed has an address you can write to.)

HIDING IN A FOXHOLE?

I am so glad to have a subscription to your magazine. With articles like "What So & So Sez," "Pastor Bob," etc., Heaven's Metal is an outreach and a light in a dark world. I think what you're doing is really neat. If more Christians would read it, the general attitude of the Christian community toward Christian hard rock would change dramatically.

Your album reviews are really great. I'm a college student, so I have to be pretty conservative with my money. I don't buy an album without reading its review in Heaven's Metal first. So far I haven't been disappointed.

I do have one question. What's Oz Fox doing? I saw that he had a solo on

Bride's new album, but is he planning on joining a band, starting his own, etc.? Everyone pretty much knows by now what his pals from Stryper are up to, but I haven't read anything about Oz. I know Guardian's first album, *First Watch*, was produced by him. Is there any kind of Guardian/Oz Fox connection in the future?

Well, I gotta go. I want you guys to know that I pray for you every day. I hope you'll never take Jesus out of your magazine.

--Rusty "Russman" Gorski
Bryan, Texas

(ED -- As you'll find out in our Stryper Tribute article this issue... Well, I'll let you find out.)

SWEDISH METAL

I read the review for Veni Domine in issue #52. It mentioned having a hard time finding their second album, *Material Sanctuary*. I've had the fortune of hearing some of their first album, *Fall, Babylon, Fall*. I know where both can be obtained. There is an import CD store in Indiana called Dream Disc. Their address is 214 W. North St., Kendallville, IN 46755. Phone: (219) 347-8080. They wrote me and said *Material Sanctuary* is out in Japan and Sweden. Swedish copies are in stock for \$25.00. The first Veni Domine is available from Japan for \$30.00.

I was also wondering about Jet Circus. I haven't heard from them in a few years. Are they still around?

--Tom Masters
Ava, Missouri

(ED -- The last we heard from Jet Circus, they had recorded their second album, but had not given it to any U.S. companies for distribution. Too bad, cause they're worth hearing, eh?)

GOD SAVE THE QUEENSRYCHE!

I have seen you guys mention Queensryche in quite a few album reviews. Are these generally cut-downs or compliments? I cannot tell by reading the reviews. I do have a lot of Christian "banger" friends, and I know there are more out there that are confused. Ever since *Operation Mindcrime*'s song, "Suite Sister Mary," which states, "the blood of Christ can't heal my wounds so deep," these men, or at least a few of them, have changed. I know, because one of them is my cousin by marriage. Michael Witton (guitarist) has changed his life. I can tell by his letters, he and his family are great people in the Christian society. Although it's hard, do not get the wrong impression of someone by a song they recorded (unless they say they mean it), because people can change. I wrote this because of all the slack I am getting from people down here. This quintet is changing. I don't know how close, but they are closer than they were four to four and a half years ago -- *Promised Land* (new album) proves that. It isn't Christian, but it is a great musical testimony of hardship.

--Donovan Clifton
Plano, Texas

ABORTION IS MURDER!

Thank you for running Sanctuary Life ads in Heaven's Metal!

Sanctuary Life has reached people with information they otherwise would not get. Many lives are affected by the 1.6 million abortions that occur in this country each year.

I thank you in advance for the lives that will be saved by your sacrifice.

--Nichole Burns
Administrator, Sanctuary Life
Lomita, California

YOUNG GEEZERS

Jeff Swenson



Chalk one up for outside producers. According to Tim Taber and the other members of the Prayer Chain, their most recent experience with Steve Hindalong, while not their first, may have been the most crucial.

"On this album, there was maybe only two or three fairly finished ideas before we started recording," Taber starts, speaking in reference to the band's third reunion release, *Mercury*. "The rest was, 'Well we think we've got a verse, we think we might

have a chorus, and we're not sure about the melody, we're not sure about the arrangement, we're not sure about any of the parts.' So, Steve's influence helped us to even be able to complete the songs, and steer us in a certain direction. He might say something that we didn't agree with, but at least he let us think for ourselves -- you know, what we wanted to do. 'Cause basically, without Steve on this record, it wouldn't have been *Mercury*--it wouldn't have been the same record at all."

"There wouldn't have been a record," bassist and lyricist Eric Campuzano concurs. And when he adds, "There'd probably be no band, no record, and we'd all be working at Taco Bell," you get the funny feeling that he's only half kidding.

With all due respect to those who flip tacos, it would be a tragedy for hard music fans if Taber, Campuzano, guitarist Andy Prickett, and drummer Wayne Everett were doing anything but sharing their music. With a spiritual maturity far beyond their



The Prayer Chain: Eric, Wayne, Tim, Andy

mid-20 ages, the Prayer Chain has released three albums -- three steps of understanding the thoughts and feelings of their world. 1992's *Whirlpool* EP, a six-song debut, was a very upbeat, meaty piece -- a rare combination of bounce and substance in an alternative rock world used to excesses of one or the other. Very spiritually uplifting, the record exalted in God's mercy, as well as the acceptance and the experience of His unconditional love. The heavy rhythms of Campuzano and Everett, the flexible guitar

The Prayer Chain

CLOSING THE DISTANCE...

playing of Prickett, and a peek at the emotional and musical range of Taber's full-throated voice, all foreshadowed the records that followed.

What followed, was the 1993 release, *Shawl*, the tone of which was set by the angry tribal chants of the first bars of "Crawl." The record was a sharp turn examining the process of learning how to grow -- a process exemplified by the darker overall mood of the record. Prickett's guitar work was a focal point, "with every note having its place," he says, and Taber's voice perfectly communicated the range of emotions, from the longing of "Pure" to the emptiness of "The Hollow." While not downtrodden or brooding, the album identified with the pain and loneliness that accompanies the task of challenging happy thoughts that often are taught and become ingrained in believers. Now, rather than "Shine Your Love on Me," the group calls on the blood of the Redeemer, the Healer. They recognize that earthly love is not what it's cracked up to be, but look with anticipation to the day "we will see love as it is." In many ways with *Shawl*, the band certainly showed its growth.

So now, after almost two full years since *Shawl*, *Mercury* takes everything a step further -- the pain of relationships, the frustration of the distance we create, and ultimately, the reliance on the Savior.

BY BRENT HERSHEY



"It ended up being a lot more emotional than the last one, which was a lot more mental," says drummer Everett, "so not only lyrically, but musically, we went for something that was a lot more earthy and emotional, rather than something that's got a lot of complicated riffing or a lot of dynamics."

Prickett agrees, "*Mercury* is more about the feeling of getting lost in the music, and we've created a piece that we're happy with. It may not have all the technique of *Shawl*, but at least for my guitar parts, I just let go and played with a lot more

emotion."

Mercury, on the whole, feels much more artistic than *Shawl* -- more expressive, droning guitars; immediately catchy hooks, but all displaying the same power of sound and message one comes to expect

from the group. The band again cites three-time Prayer Chain producer (and drummer of the Choir) Steve Hindalong with a lion's share of the credit.

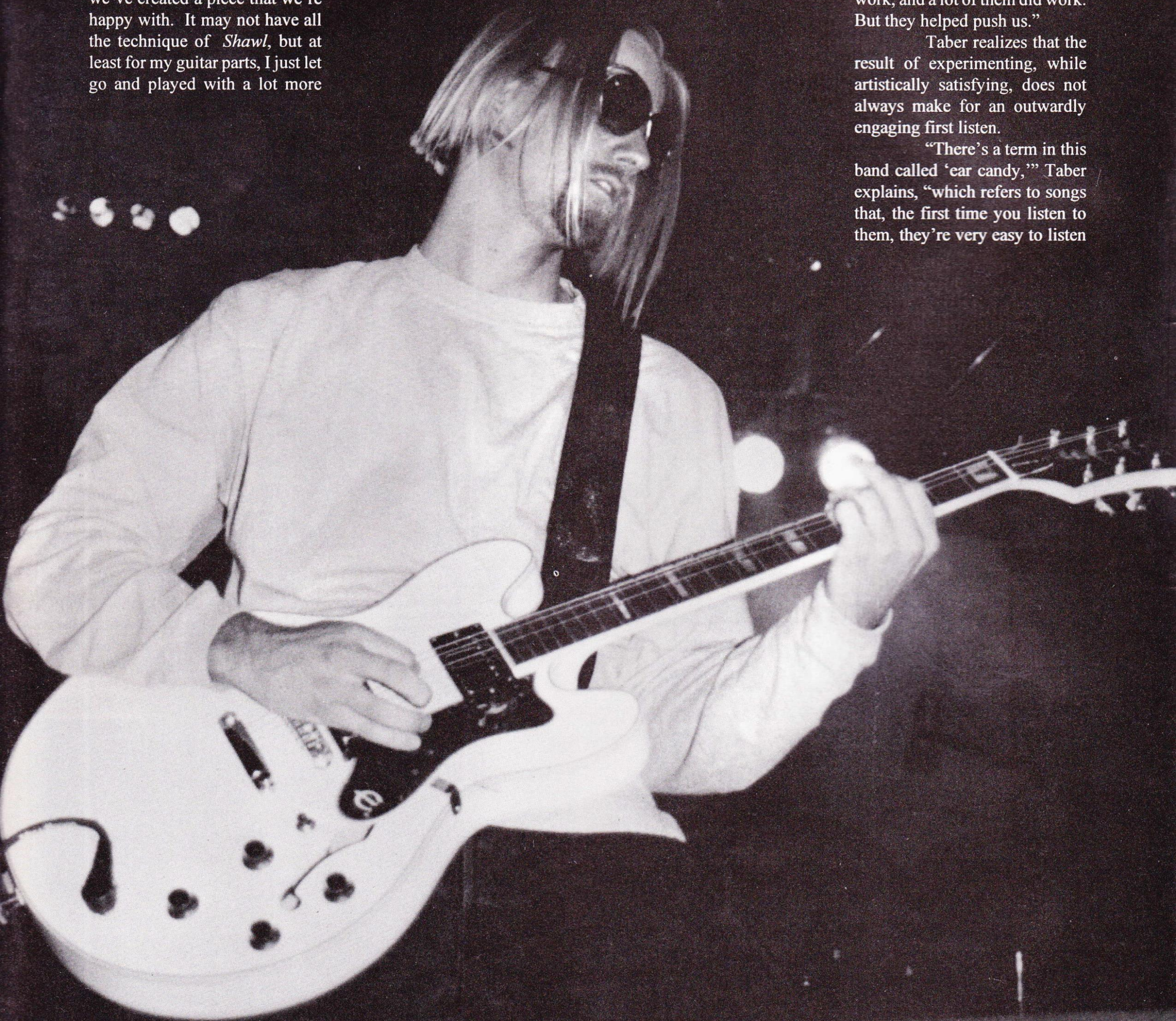
"He really helped us to unite and to get things into some sort of a form that could be edible

to the marketplace," Everett says.

Taber continues, "Chris Colbert was actually a big help as well. Chris actually helped us come up with sound ideas for different instruments -- drums, guitar, bass, vocals -- and I think helped spur Andy to try different things. Both Steve and Chris just challenged us quite a bit. We tried a lot of different ideas -- some of them didn't work, and a lot of them did work. But they helped push us."

Taber realizes that the result of experimenting, while artistically satisfying, does not always make for an outwardly engaging first listen.

"There's a term in this band called 'ear candy,'" Taber explains, "which refers to songs that, the first time you listen to them, they're very easy to listen



to. The problem with those songs tend to be that, after several listens, they lose their flavor and you start to get sick of them real quick. Where it seems to be the music that you like for several years has more depth to it; and they're doing different things. Maybe the first time you heard it, you weren't too sure about it, but after you listened to it ten times, it grew on you, rather than to start getting old. So, I think that's more of what this album will be for people -- that, after repeated listens, they won't be getting sick of it. Hopefully, they'll be finding new things that they didn't hear before, that it will be growing on them."

The examples are evident throughout *Mercury*. The album's lead-off track, "Humb," is a reading of Psalm 136, characterized by Taber's lost-in-the-mix distorted vocal and Prickett's extended, wailing guitar. Not exactly hit single material -- but neither was the band's past year that ordinary, either, Campuzano explains.

"It's kinda weird, because when we were discussing this record, a lot of people said *Shawl* was a negative album, so we all kinda wanted to do this real drony, 'get lost in the music' type record -- only with praise songs. But we really started just disliking each other, so that didn't really allow us to fully praise God, because there's just too much disconnection within the band.

"So, that's why I think a song like "Humb" really captures the band," Campuzano continues, "'Cause we are Christians, and God is the only One who is gonna deliver us from whatever. But Andy had this nice drone that you can get lost in, and totally just meditate to, and here comes this loud bass and drums to destroy any semblance of relaxation or peace. That's essentially what our walk is with God and our lives are with each other in this band. To me, "Humb" is a very crucial part of this record."

Psalm 136's message of steadfast love as Creator ("His loving kindness is everlasting") is intended to be a comfort to all

in need. And to experience that need first-hand, makes the comfort all the more vital.

"Nineteen-ninety-four was a rough year for this band," Prickett says frankly. Though signed to a big-time Nashville label (Reunion), embraced equally by both critics and fans, playing all the festivals, and fronting a major tour with alter-icons The 77's, life in the Prayer Chain was not always so chirpy. Beyond the surface, there seemed to be pressures from everywhere. And with *Mercury*, it shows.

More than anything, *Mercury* is about distance; about feelings, and about feelings of distance -- and much more than just the literal reference in the title track, of the 56 million miles between the planet Mercury and the Bering Sea. In songs like "Mercury" and "Grylliade," we are reminded of our ugly human tendency to harbor negative feelings toward others inside -- letting them ferment until they are the most potent. "Shiver" reflects the inner haunting that takes place when you look back on your worst times -- the ghosts that remain, the incredulousness of realizing that was you, and the shame and guilt that seems unshakable. Through the negative distance we create in our relationships and our response to it, and the painful memories that go along with it, the evil one has quite a foothold.

For the Prayer Chain, much of their distance seems to have come from life on the road. In a van. With the same four or five people. "We were always doing stuff together," says Prickett, "and even though we were always on the go, we just got bored of each other, and bored of . . . stuff. It sometimes got to the point of just wanting to strangle the guy in the seat next to you," he says with only a hint of humor.

"The record definitely does have that element of disconnection to it," says Everett, "certainly with God and even beyond talking of spiritual things -- it really explores feeling disconnected with other people around you. With a lover, even within the band -- there's songs

on this record about all of us being totally disconnected with each other, and having to make a record at the same time. It also has songs with a lot of hope in them, such as "Humb" and "Sky High" and "Sun Stoned," which really invite a relinquishing to God in order to achieve peace and to become more connected with all these things that you've been separated from."

"The record is just honest," says Campuzano, "It's us baring our souls, and putting our emotions out for everyone to take a shot at, basically."

"I guess we'll just have to live with how people react to that," Everett concedes, but also says confidently, "It will also be the most honest record that will come out this year."

Within all the disconnection that either the Prayer Chain or other Christians face in their day to day relationships, how do they sit and hear God's voice in such times of chaos?

"The whole record basically itself is a manifestation of God telling us exactly what to do," Campuzano says. "All the lyrics, regardless of who they're written by, seem to be really together. It wasn't like we set out to do a thematic record, but I think the record itself did turn out to be thematic, in that it is a man's walk with God, from the beginning of "Humb" to the end of "Sun Stoned." And that is something that we did not set out to do, or outline."

Taber confesses that struggles with the direction of the Prayer Chain still remain; it's not some mystery that

only their key unlocks. "Even right now, it's confusing to know what God's will is. It's just hard to keep it together sometimes, and not just keep doing it year after year for the sake of doing it. So, for me, if I'm going to keep doing it year after year, I need to know that God is using us, and working in us, and this is where I need to be at this certain point in my life."

"So, I always like to be in check with that. And I'm hoping to see and find out what exactly God wants to do a little bit more on this tour coming up. Just to get affirmation from God that He's happy with what we're doing and to keep doing it -- or, if our time's over or whatever . . . just not like in this confused state where I feel like I am right now."

The Prayer Chain has been through some tough times since *Shawl*, obviously, but their refusal to let it push them down and ignore their humanness is one of the qualities that make the band, and specifically, *Mercury*, so engaging. For if we believe that God truly cares for us, won't He be near in our questioning times, as well as our confident ones? This band and record remind us that, with a willing spirit, no distance is too great for its Creator to heal. **HM**

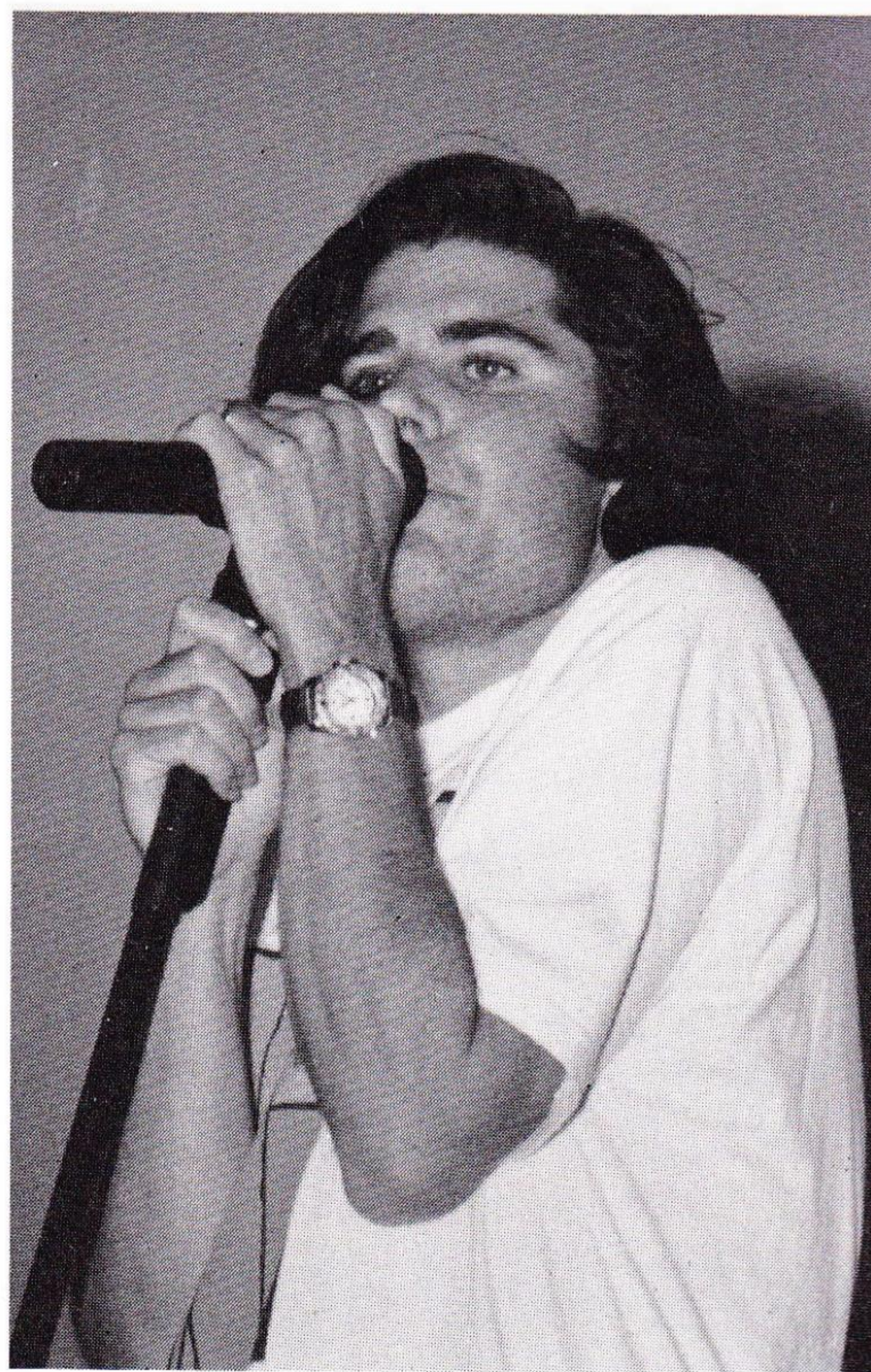


Photo by Larry Bolen

The Tourniquet doctors are back, but this time it seems they've shed their medical school vocabulary for good. They do continue in the healing profession, however, with *Carry the Wounded*, a new 5-song EP that represents their first recorded work with guitarist Aaron Guerra. Plus, the band has also released their next step into the video market, titled *Pushin' Broom*, which is anchored by a concert clip of their hit, "Bearing Gruesome Cargo," accompanied by rare live video footage, interviews, and on-the-road bits.

The EP was produced by Jim Faraci, who also produced the successful *Vanishing Lessons*, and showcases a band adamantly refusing to rest on its laurels. As usual, diversity and the unexpected abound, although it explores new avenues. An acoustic version of "My Promise" (?) A love song ("When the Love is Right")? A Fleetwood Mac cover tune ("Oh Well")?!? Gary, Ted . . . there's a lot to talk about. What's the scoop?

Fleetwood Mac???

It seems as if *Vanishing lessons* is not that old; and you've already got a new EP out, *Carry the Wounded*. What circumstances led up to releasing the EP?

"One reason," answers Ted, "was that, from *Vanishing Lessons*, a couple of singles, 'Bearing Gruesome Cargo' and 'Twilight,' in particular, did real well. 'Twilight' was a totally different type of song for us. But, people that have been into Tourniquet know, we've never been pigeonholed by our fans to being into just one kind of music. On *Stop the Bleeding*, we've got a song about animal protection; on *Psycho Surgery*, there's a metal/rap song; on *Pathogenic*, you've got acoustic 12-string guitars. So, as far as music, we don't sit there and say, 'Every song has to sound exactly like the rest, tone-wise,' or whatever. We try to write music that we enjoy, and if people are into it, great. We realize that everyone has their favorite songs and favorite albums. We know that *Vanishing Lessons* was a change musically, and people seemed to really appreciate it, thank goodness.

"'Twilight' had such success -- it reached number 20 on CHR, and #1 on CCM rock chart, which was a first for us -- that we went in and did a few different types of songs, and that's what the EP is about."

In relation to different song styles on past albums, it seems that the "departure" songs on *Vanishing* and *Carry the Wounded* carry more of a pop feel. Does the "pop stigma" concern you any more than your previous use of metal/rap or 12-strings?

"Absolutely zero," says Ted. "There were rumors before *Vanishing Lessons* came out that, 'Tourniquet's gone pop, or more mainstream,' or whatever. We've never been one to compliment ourselves; we've always espoused that verse in Proverbs, which says,

Tourniquet

Doing Something Different



Quieter moments at the Ground Floor Benefit (I.H.S. Photos)

'Let another compliment you, instead of your own mouth,' which I think is a good example for any band that claims to be from the Lord. So, I think the reviews put that 'pop fear' to rest. There was still a heavy edge to it. We obviously went for more of a groove; and, on this, it's just like putting out five songs that are different musically. People can call it whatever they want. I think, if the music is good, if people like the music, it doesn't matter what kind of music it is."

"The original idea was to do just an EP of covers," says Gary. "We've never been able to do more published covers on record. We did a cover on the live EP a long time ago, but that's where we got the idea to do the Fleetwood Mac tune. Because, originally, we were thinking of doing a few, which we threw out after considering what Ted has just discussed about 'Twilight' and some of the other radio possibilities that we were given. So, we went in with a little idea -- we did both! We ended up with an acoustic version of 'My Promise,' from *Vanishing*, three new songs, and a cover.

"As musicians, it's important for Ted and I and the rest of the group to be able to express ourselves musically in a lot of different ways. And there's so many different approaches to the theory of music: there's major, there's minor; there's all different kinds of melody and harmony possibilities within music. And for us to be able to express ourselves with different guitar sounds and chording, and not scare anybody away who's into Tourniquet for

the same reason, is a challenge."

Another new twist, both musically and lyrically, comes in the song, "When the Love is Right," which I understand was written for Ted's fiancée, Lizette. Tell us about that song.

"I'm so incredibly thankful to God for putting in my path someone like her," says Ted, officially taking himself off the "most eligible bachelor" list. "It's also a praise song to God for allowing us to meet each other and become engaged and so on. Obviously, when you have something that touches you emotionally like that, the music is going to fit the lyrics. And being so into classical music, I find it beautiful. I think, if people don't appreciate beauty in music, I think they're really missing out on what music can be about. Music can be brutal. Music can be technically difficult. It can be a lot of things. But, if you're into music and you don't have any desire to hear anything beautiful, then that's very tragic. So, that song, I hope, is as beautiful as my love for Lizette, which is why I wrote the song -- it's a love song to her."

With that lyrical shift in mind, it seems that *Vanishing* and *Wounded* both take a bit of a different turn lyrically than some of Tourniquet's earlier projects.

"With *Psycho Surgery*'s medical lyric, and also, as you look at *Pathogenic*, I mean, where are you going to go from 'Gelatinous Tubercles of Purulent Ossification?'" asks Ted. "Do you come out with

"Carry the Wounded"

The ground-breaking EP recording
from one of CCM's Premiere bands

In 1994

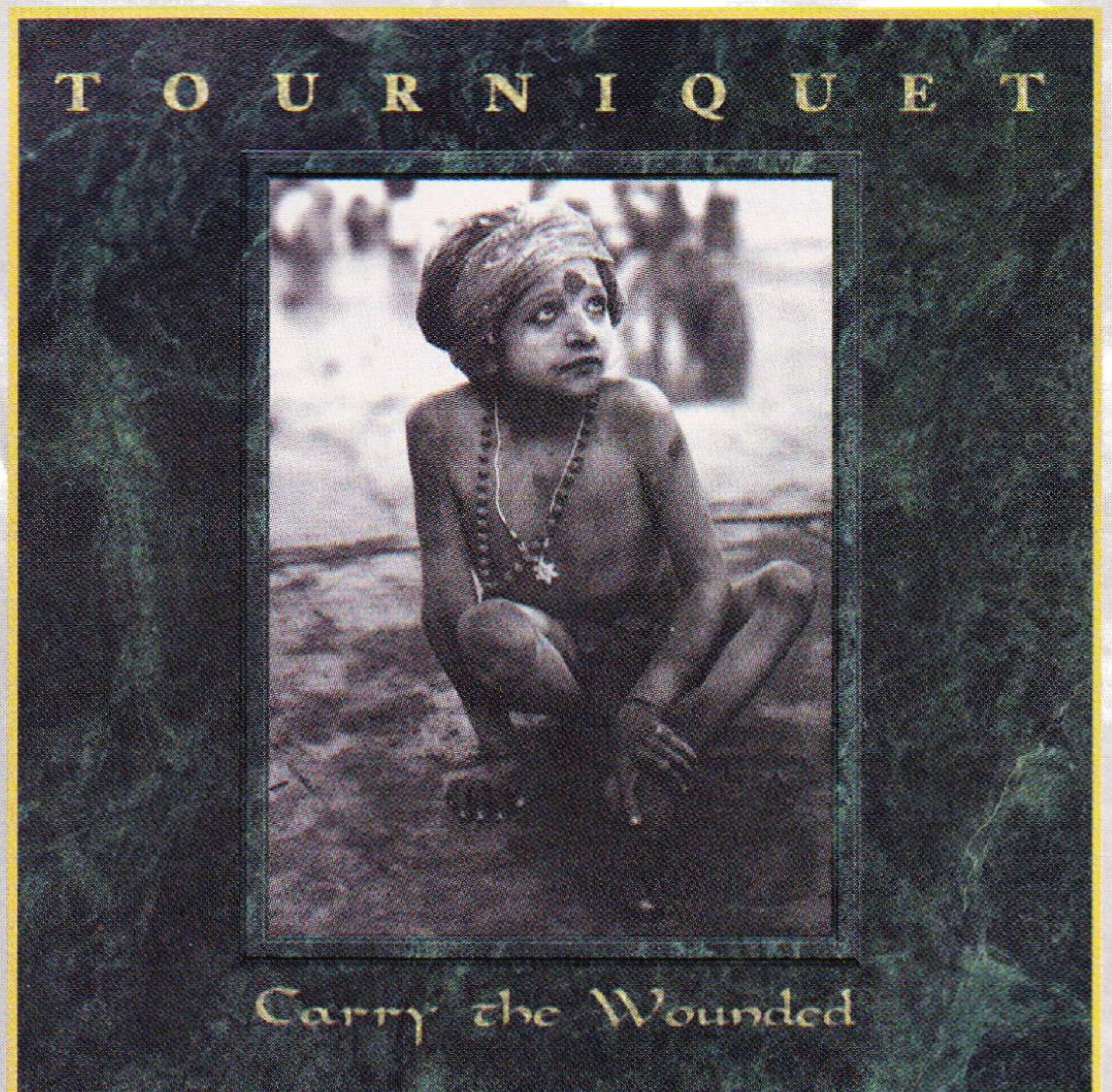
Tourniquet

surprised the music world
with "Vanishing Lessons".

An album so diverse it spawned hit songs
on Metal, Rock and CHR Radio.

In 1995, **Tourniquet**

once again makes
music history.



5 New Songs, A Great Price, Ultra Collectible...

Diamante

8.99 cd, 5.99 cassette

INTENSE
Records

Three Crosses - Veterans On The Loose

If Three Crosses' music stands out as much as Stephen Pasch's and Ralph Barrientos' East Coast accents, they're sure to be big sellers. Based in New Jersey, Three Crosses has released an impressive debut, which features guest guitar playing by Spin Doctors' Andy Krizan and the veteran production touch of Barry Beckett, who has produced Bob Dylan, Dire Straits, and a host of other artists. Guitarist/vocalist Pasch (who has written songs for Lenny Kravitz, Contraband, and other artists) and keyboardist Barrientos recently spoke with Heaven's Metal writer **Randy S. Rocker** about the beginning of Three Crosses, their vintage guitar collection, and their debut album.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO BECOME A MUSICIAN?

"I'd have to say that it was the piano sitting in my parent's living room," explains Ralph. "To this day, my folks have an old picture of me when I was two years old, pounding on the keys. It seems I was destined to play. I tend to stay pretty 'old school' with my piano sounds."

DOES THE SOUND OF THREE CROSSES REPRESENT WHAT YOU LISTENED TO GROWING UP?

"We grew up listening to The Band, Van Morrison, The Stones," says Stephen. "We've been playing the same style of music together for over ten years. Over the years we've all played in different projects together. When we put Three Crosses together, we wanted to make sure that we stayed true to what we've been doing for a long time, and that's straight-ahead guitar sound with an old school keyboard style."

DOES IT SURPRISE YOU THAT THE ROOTS ROCK KIND OF SOUND IS VERY POPULAR RIGHT NOW? THE ALLMAN BROTHERS WERE JUST ENTERED IN THE HALL OF FAME, THE COUNTING CROWS ARE BIG...

"It seems with the

Counting Crows," says Ralph, "that kind of sound is coming back, because it's true music. It's real music. There was a time that people just sat down at their instruments and just let their artistic feelings flow through them. They came out with great jams and people are coming to hear great songs and good playing."

been writing for a while for other artists, but Ralph and I really felt called to do Christian music. We felt so called that we just dropped out of the band. We knew that God was really behind Three Crosses, because once we dedicated our music to Him, the doors really started opening up."

THERE'S A LOT



"I think that the kids today can see sincerity in music today," adds Stephen. "Like, Nirvana was so sincere that, no matter what, people saw that they were a real band. Tori Amos is very unique and very sincere. In the 80's, everyone just tried to have hits. There was no artistic direction."

YOU WERE IN A MAINSTREAM BAND BEFORE YOU FORMED THREE CROSSES.

"Ralph and I were signed to Polygram in a band called NYC," says Stephen. "My old partner at that time (Anthony Krizan) had just joined Spin Doctors. But, that band didn't work out. I had

OF DIVERSITY IN YOUR SOUND. THE ALBUM OFFERS BALLADS, POP TUNES, AND STRAIGHT-AHEAD ROCK. WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST?

"I think that we enjoy playing all of it," admits Stephen. "While writing this record, there wasn't a constraint of being pigeon-holed to one sound. We wanted to write songs just to praise God. I personally enjoy all of them. The songs have different moods, but they're all Three Crosses."

AS A NEW BAND, WAS IT OVERWHELMING WORKING WITH YOUR

PRODUCER, BARRY BECKETT?

"He was a great guy to work with," answers Stephen. "Just talking to him about working with Bob Dylan, Aretha Franklin, Bob Seger, and Mark Knopfler was just amazing. We felt really honored to work with him. He really just loved our music and really wanted to work with us. He's very expensive, but he accommodated his rate to record our album."

"He was a dream to work with," adds Ralph. "There was no compromising. He didn't change a note of our music. He just let us do our thing. We just played and had fun with it."

I HEAR YOU'RE AN AVID GUITAR COLLECTOR, STEPHEN.

"I have about 75 really vintage, classic guitars. I have Les Paul's from the 50's; Strat's from the 60's; basses; Gretsch guitars; all different types. Actually, we're going to give away a vintage guitar during our concert at the GMA convention."

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THIS YEAR?

"We're going to play some festivals this summer," says Stephen. "We're playing Atlanta Fest. We may go on the road in the summer, but we're scheduling to do a big tour in the fall."

WHAT'S THE CHALLENGE YOU FIND IN WRITING A SONG?

"We really don't think much about it," says Stephen. "We just write songs. Not to be cliché, but we just try to write a song and be honest about it. Hopefully, you can come out with a product that people listen to and realize it's heartfelt. On this record, we didn't try to write any particular style. We just wanted to convey honesty. Our main priority is we want everybody to know that we are a Christian band. We made the record that we wanted to make. We just hope that everybody likes it. That remains in the public's hands. No matter how it sells, I just feel really blessed to be able to have made this record."

HM

Testifying In The Witness Box

It is indeed a rare thing to find someone who can and will boldly share their faith in Jesus Christ in an intelligent, meaningful manner. I find this to be the case in almost any sub-group of Christian people -- the musical world being no exception. **Ken Tamplin** is one of these rare people, and Heaven's Metal writer **David Muttillio** recently talked with Ken about life, faith, music, history, and his new album, *In the Witness Box*.

Let's start with the new album.

"It's really a strange, eclectic thing for me. I am caught between musical genres. There's a lot going on in alternative, or what I now call mainstream music, that I have not had a lot of appreciation for. There are very few bands I have chosen to even take knowledge of. In light of that, I tried to make a record that carried some of the heavy elements of what's going on. Sort of that Pantera-esque vibe, but still with some of the more AC/DC influences, which you'll notice in the very first track. That sound is combined with some literacy. The opening track is about how the media plays on sensationalism.

"There is another track called 'Strange Fascination,' which talks about our infatuation with tabloid magazines. There's another track, called 'Alma Rose.' I was at the Simon Wiesenthal museum and noticed a really touching story about a young lady who was a Jew, and she was forced by the Nazis to play her violin for her people to soothe them prior to their extermination. Although it's a dark subject, it's a triumphant song about the Jews who looked to America as sort of a promised land. 'If we could just get to America...'

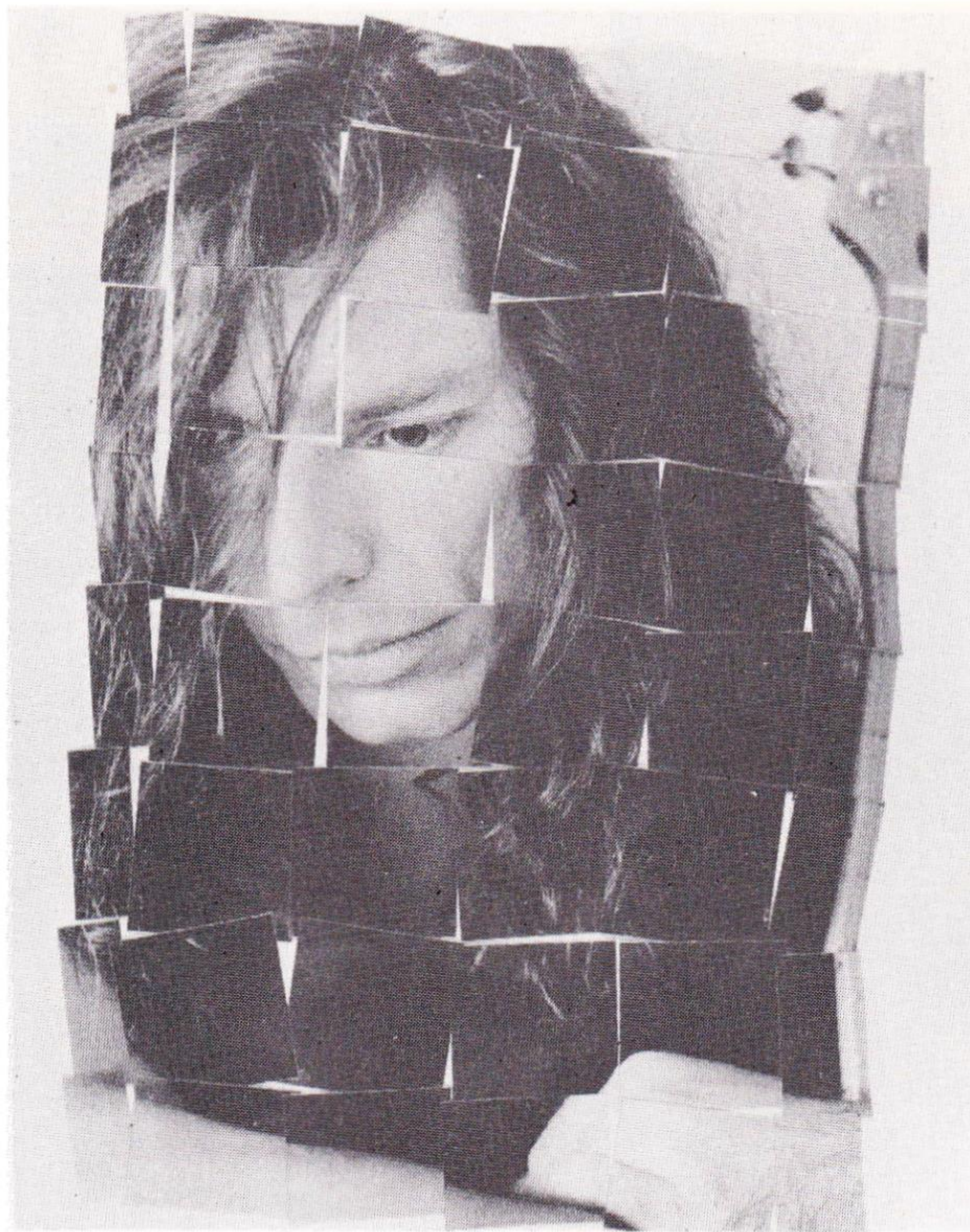
"I'm looking for things that are maybe a little outside the typical commercial rock vein, but still without losing what I

have an appreciation for. There's another, called 'Star Chamber,' about Michael Jackson and the whole Jackson charade. It's got that dirty, grungy Guns 'n' Roses... maybe a little dirtier attitude in it."

Tell me where the album title, *In the Witness Box*, comes from.

"Sometimes I feel that way. I deal primarily with a certain clientele, doing TV commercials for Ford, Japan Airlines, and a plethora of different companies, along with producing other people's songs and records. So, I find myself in the secular arena every bit as much, if not more, than the Christian market. As a result of that, I feel as if I'm always being challenged in my faith. I'm always having someone, when they find out I'm a Christian, being taken a bit aback by it professionally, because I'm pretty aggressive when it comes to my music, and I really don't have much grace at all for a lack of playing skills. That's one of the reasons I've had a hard time appreciating some of the newer music that's out there. When people find out I'm a believer, and that whole thing gets laid out on the table, I think it's a pleasant surprise when they find out that I'm as professional as I am faithful. So I feel like I'm in the witness box."

On your last album, *Tamplin*, you had a band. None of



them are on this one. What happened?

"I'm changing musical styles a bit. I've tried to surround myself with people who want to be more like a family. Scott Van Zen wanted to do a solo blues album and pursue his own career. So, I've been working with Joey Tafolla, who's worked with Michael Sweet and did my last European tour. There are tracks on the album that date back to the Magdallan album that Lanny Cordolla had played on. I thought it was in the best interests of the song to keep the integrity of the song and keep Lanny's playing intact on those pieces. Robert Kent is actually back with me. Tad Dery played on the new album, and on my last US and European tours, but he just wasn't what I was looking for in a bass player."

What happened with your last tour? It was supposed to do big things.

"We had a tough time with the promoter, who lied to all the groups. He guaranteed a certain amount of money per

show, and we would get to the show and find a contract, signed by him, that stated we would play for 50% of the door, or some ridiculous thing. It finally got to the point where financially we couldn't afford it. There were some good shows where we got paid, but this was a fiasco."

You're a fan of ancient history. Does it show in your music?

"It does show up. 'Alma Rose' is a song about World War II. It's not ancient history, but it is history. The song, 'In Your Face,' was

historical, as was 'All the King's Horses' from the last album. I try to use the subject of history to take a look at scripture."

Give us a closing thought.

"There is a Scripture that says, 'and teach us to number our days, that we would apply our hearts unto wisdom.' More than ever, we need to equip ourselves with God's Word. Find things that aren't so humdrum when you do your devotionals, so you aren't falling asleep. Find something interesting that gets you excited about Christianity -- excited about the Gospel. Don't stick up your nose at your peers because they don't believe, but try to be genuine and live your life -- and let that be your example. Be a genuine, authentic witness for the gospel. A great way to witness is just by genuinely befriending someone and being there for them. Then, when the opportunity presents itself, you can gently present the gospel to them. Your friendship will be a testimony that speaks louder than words."

HM

THREE CROSSES



**The Roots-Rock Debut From The Year's
Most Talked About New Band.**

Includes the Hits "Sign Of The Times" and "This Is Not My Home"

Produced by Barry Beckett (Bob Dylan, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Bob Seger)

In Stores May 23!

And Introducing CD+VIDEO

This CD includes a full-length video of "This Is Not My Home" playable on CD-ROM
(see CD for machine compatibility specifications).

Visit Benson's World Wide Web Site at <http://netcentral.net/benson/>



BENSON

A Music Entertainment Group Co.

ONE BAD PIG

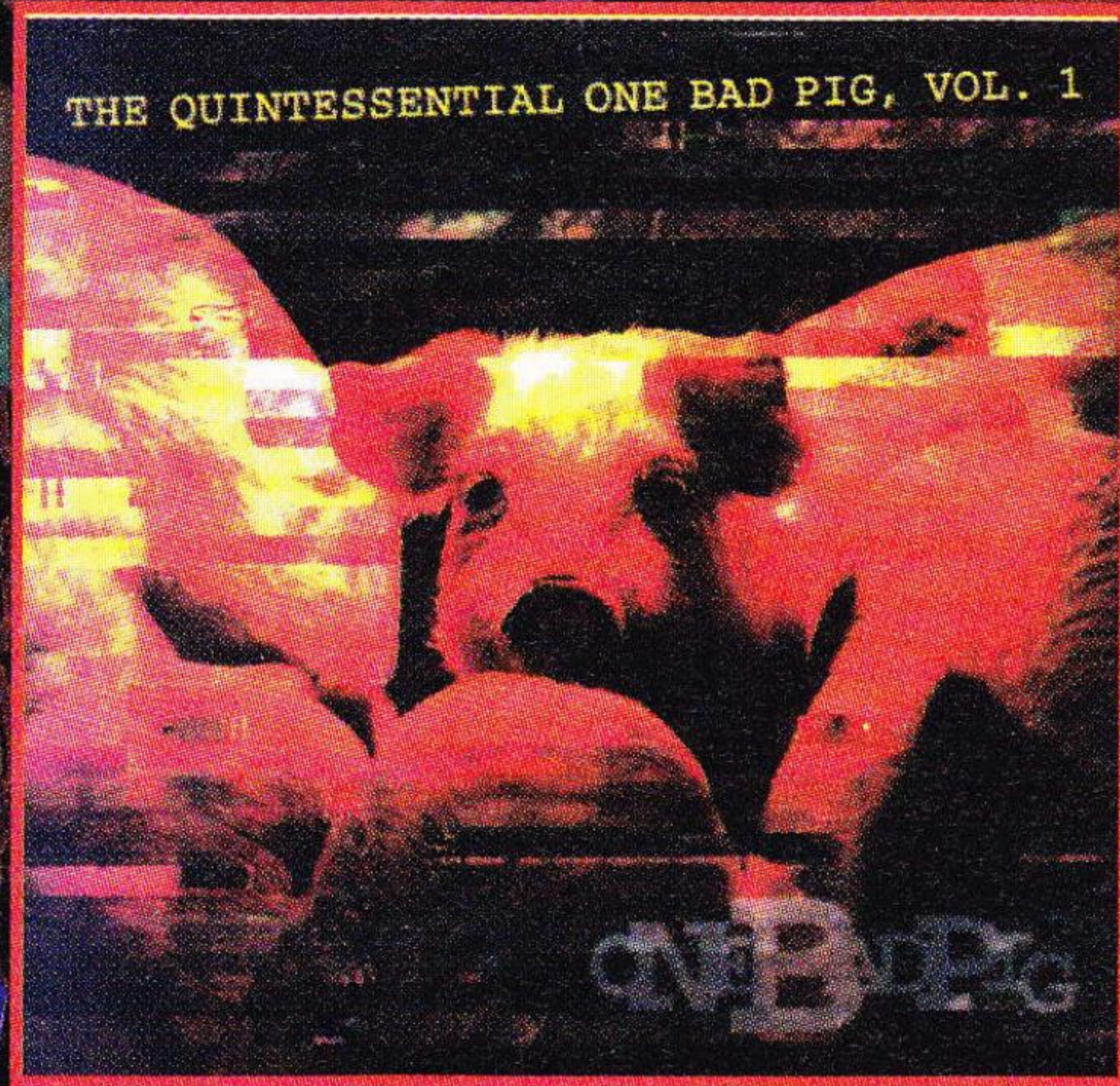
The Quintessential One Bad Pig, Vol. 1

Congratulations on your aggressive shreddin'-cutting edge-jump in your face
-make no mistake-sold out to God-dead serious about Christ-rockumentary!



1995
Dove
Award
Nominee

Metal
Album
of the
Year



THE QUINTESSENTIAL ONE BAD PIG, VOL. 1

PROMOTIONAL CONTACT: AIMEE PATRICK
815-385-0079 EXT. 104



meet johnny q. public...

Age and experience isn't everything. Just ask the members of the Missouri-based Johnny Q. Public. Lead guitarist Oran Thornton is only 15 years old, and rhythm guitarist Shawn Turner is only 17. The rest of the band is not much older; but who cares when you were born when you have a recording contract and a new album on the way?

Johnny Q. Public, who has been together for a year and a half, took time out of its busy schedule to let Heaven's Metal writer **Andrew Crump** know a bit about the band. In fact, the band was about to go on a ten-day tour with Dakoda Motor Company and Hoi Polloi when the interview took place. Read along as Oran and Shawn inform. If you have a problem believing what you read, remember, "Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." (I Timothy 4:12.)

How did Johnny Q. Public get signed to Gotee Records?

"We were doing this demo tape with Steve Griffith --

he's a producer in Nashville," said Oran. "We were doing a cheesy little demo tape with him. He produces Audio Adrenaline. When we were making the demo tape there, lead singer Mark Stuart came by and listened to us and got talkin' to us. He hooked us up with a guy named Joe Baldridge, who is our producer. He's engineered a lot of DC Talk albums and stuff. He basically gave the tape to Toby and Joey and all the guys at Gotee Records."

What sort of goals do you have for the band right now?

"Right now, our main goal is -- we've been playing concerts that have been booked just by us, and by the people around us -- and our main goal is just to get out and try to get a following, and try to really help some people while we're doing it," said Shawn. "I think the last concert we played, there was, like, 80 kids that came forward and got saved. So, our main goal -- our always goal -- is to stay completely focused on God, and make sure we do what He wants us to. First, we're Christians. We're on this earth to please

God, and that's our main goal. If we don't do that, then whatever music we've done and however great we could become, we've still failed. We've still lost everything. So we try to really keep our focus on pleasing God, and being in His will, and letting the rest fall into place."

A lot of guys your age that are involved in music, are trapped in garage-type bands. You guys are signed and have an album coming out. How do you deal with that?

"We're having a blast, I guess," said Oran. "We're just excited about it. We don't know what to think about it yet."

"Our families have been involved in music our whole lives," said Shawn. "We've been around it forever. Once we all got together and started playing, everything kind of changed to a different level, but it's still real cool. It's just hard to believe sometimes."

Who are your influences, musically?

"There's probably a big range with all of us," said Oran.

"When we went down to Nashville, Joe took us back to a lot of older bands," continued Shawn. "We've all been influenced by the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, and all the bands like that. We've learned stuff from them."

"Jimi Hendrix -- especially, for me," interjected Oran.

"We try not to be influenced by the Pearl Jam's and Nirvana's and bands like that, because we don't want to sound like that," said Shawn. "We just want to be Johnny Q. Public. It's easy to get named, in Christian music, as the Christian Nirvana or Pearl Jam, so we want to stay completely away from that and just write from ourselves and be influenced by the people that influenced those bands,

instead of being directly influenced by them."

What is your view of the music scene today? Things seem to be a lot looser now. There are some who even say that you can make it in the music business today and have no talent. What are your thoughts on the music scene as a whole?

"I think music is on a whole different level now," said Oran. "It's more real."

"I think that, like, all the punk bands, and people like that, that are up-to-date now are the people that can really play," said Shawn.

"Especially with a lot of the processed bands -- It seems that half of it is not even really them playing," continued Oran. "They use a lot of studio musicians. We as a band like that natural feel, anyway. We don't want to be, like a grungy band or anything. We just want to be a rock 'n' roll band that is really raw and natural."

How will you guys deal with the financial woes of being in a Christian band?

"We're really blessed," said Oran. "We're part of a ministry. Shawn's dad is head of a ministry, so we get financial support from them."

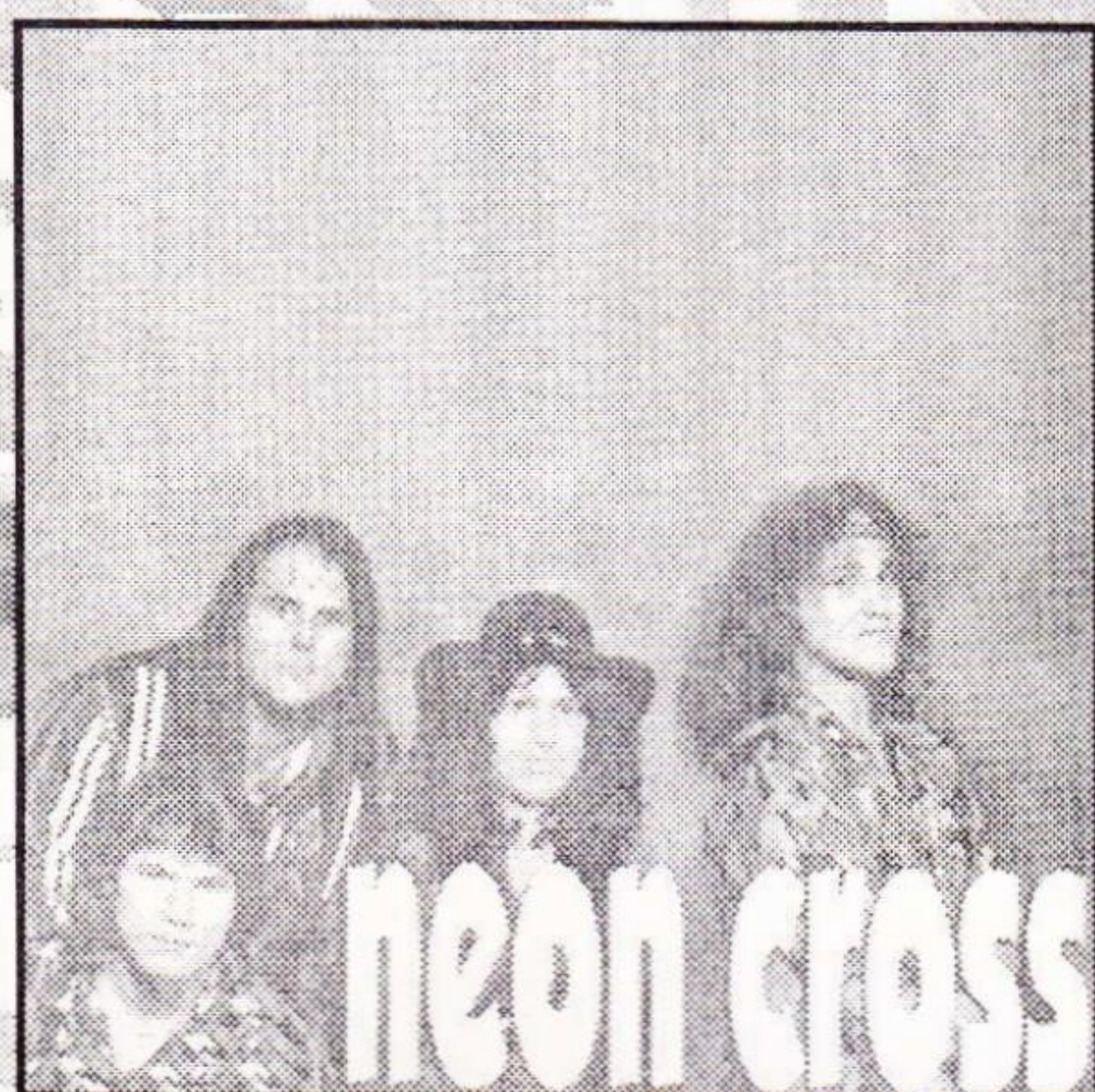
"Since he's my dad, and he has a whole construction business outside of the ministry. . . if we need money, it's there," said Shawn. "When we did our album, we weren't signed yet. He paid the budget for the album. The record company will pay him back. If we go on the road and one of us needs money, then he can give us a salary, and then it will come out later on down the road. We'll pay him back."

Any last comments?

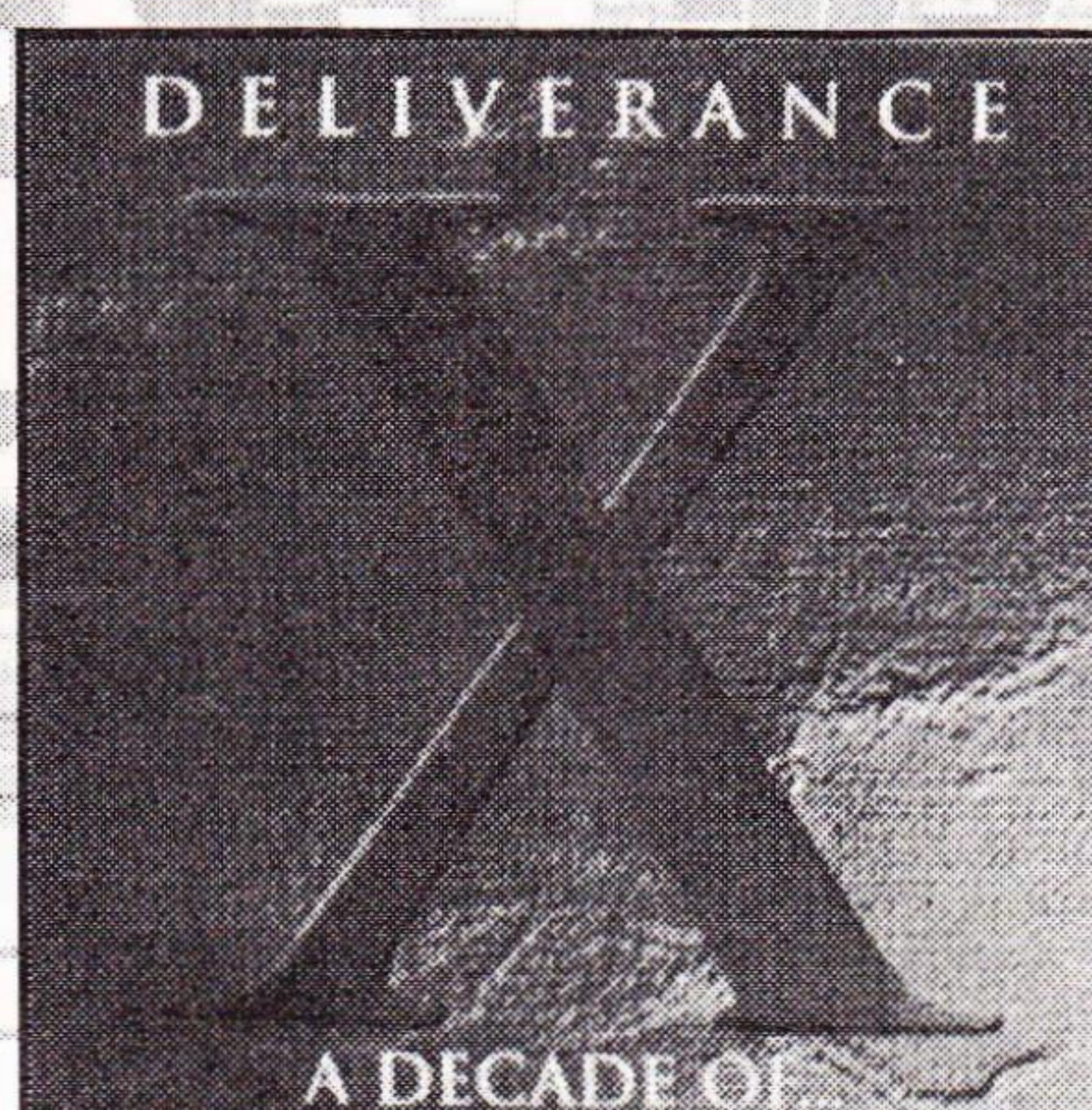
"We're not a blues rock band," said Oran. **HM**

CAMELOT

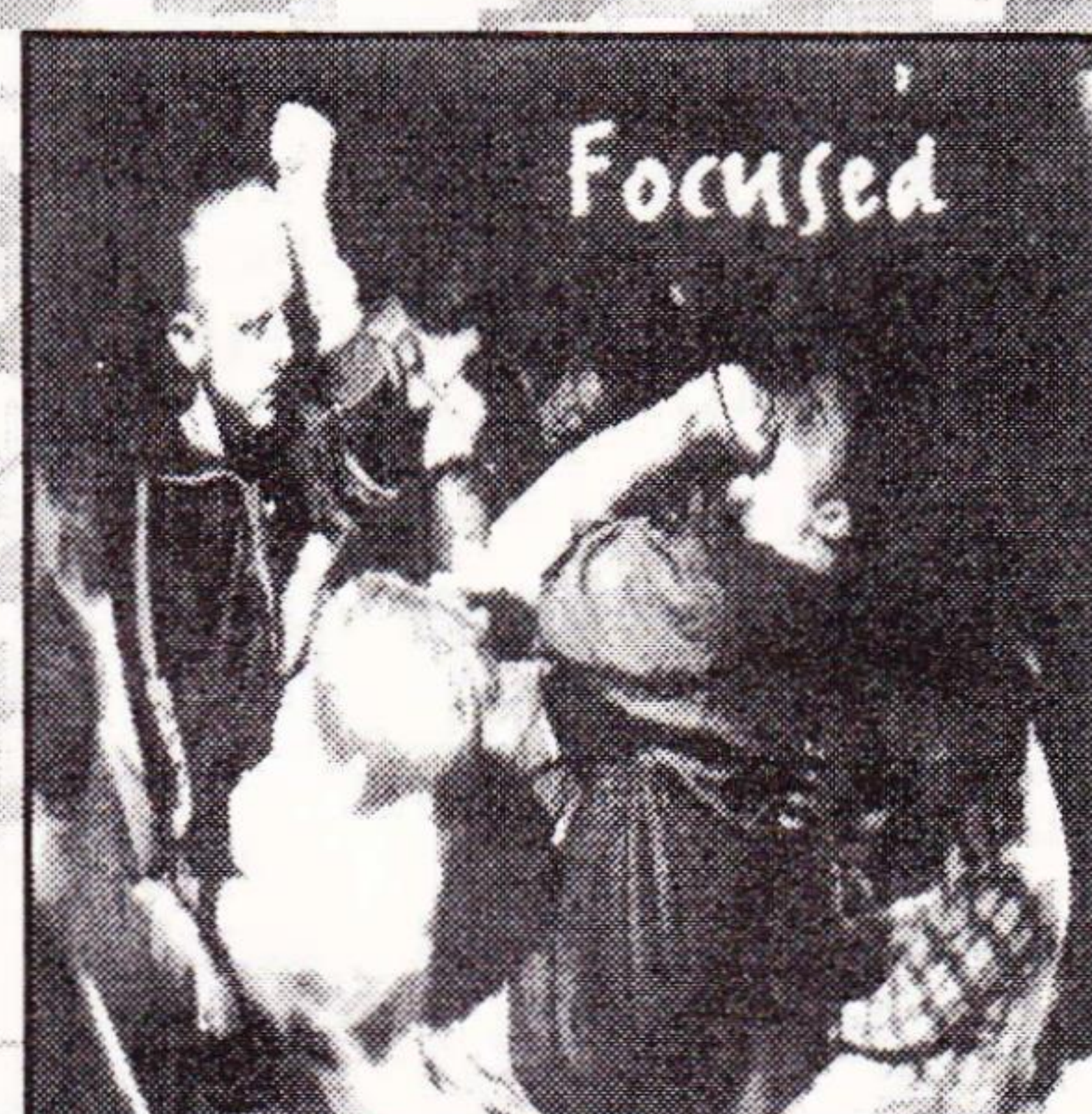
MUSIC



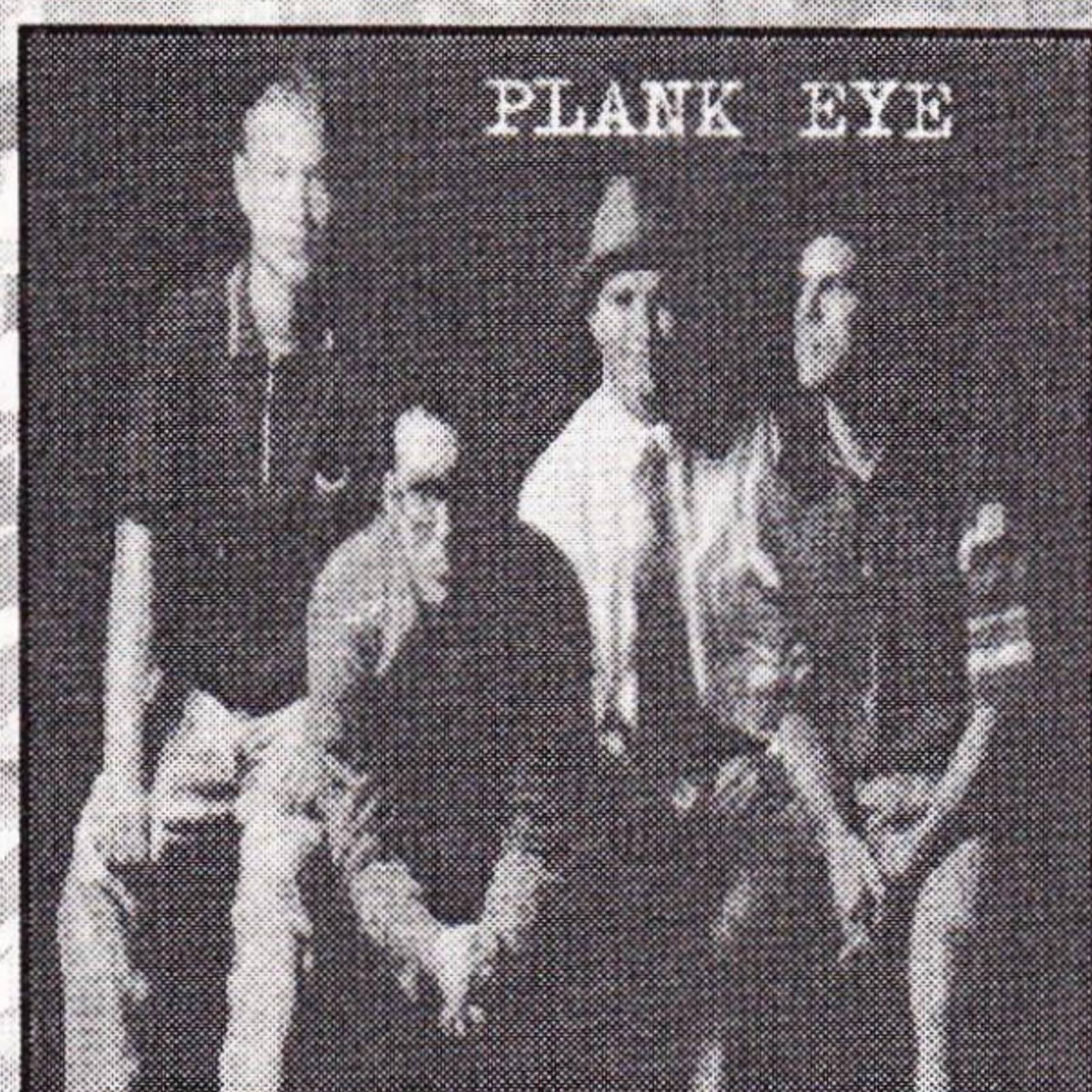
Neon Cross
Neon Cross
Rugged Records



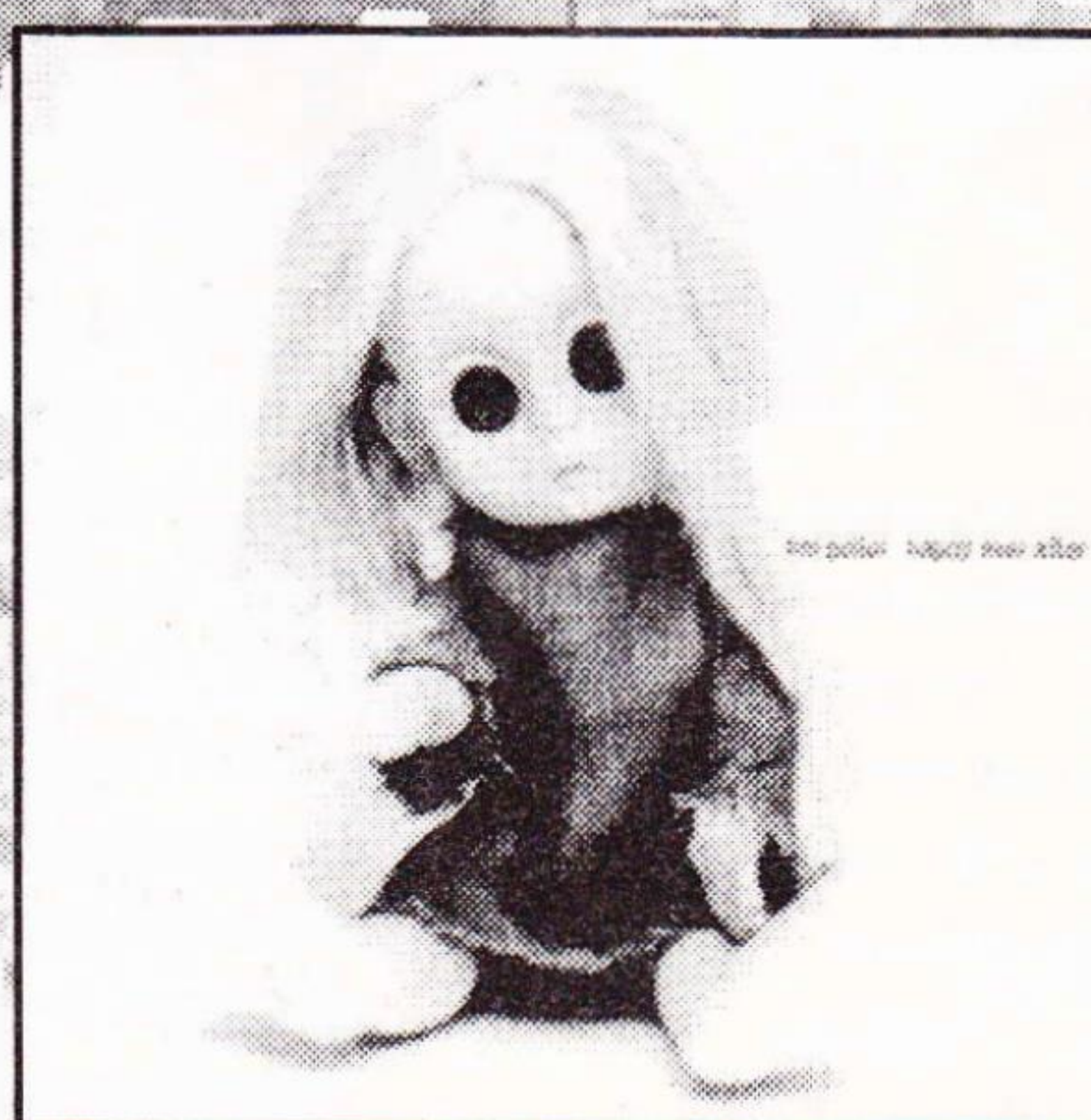
Deliverance
A Decade Of...
Intense Records



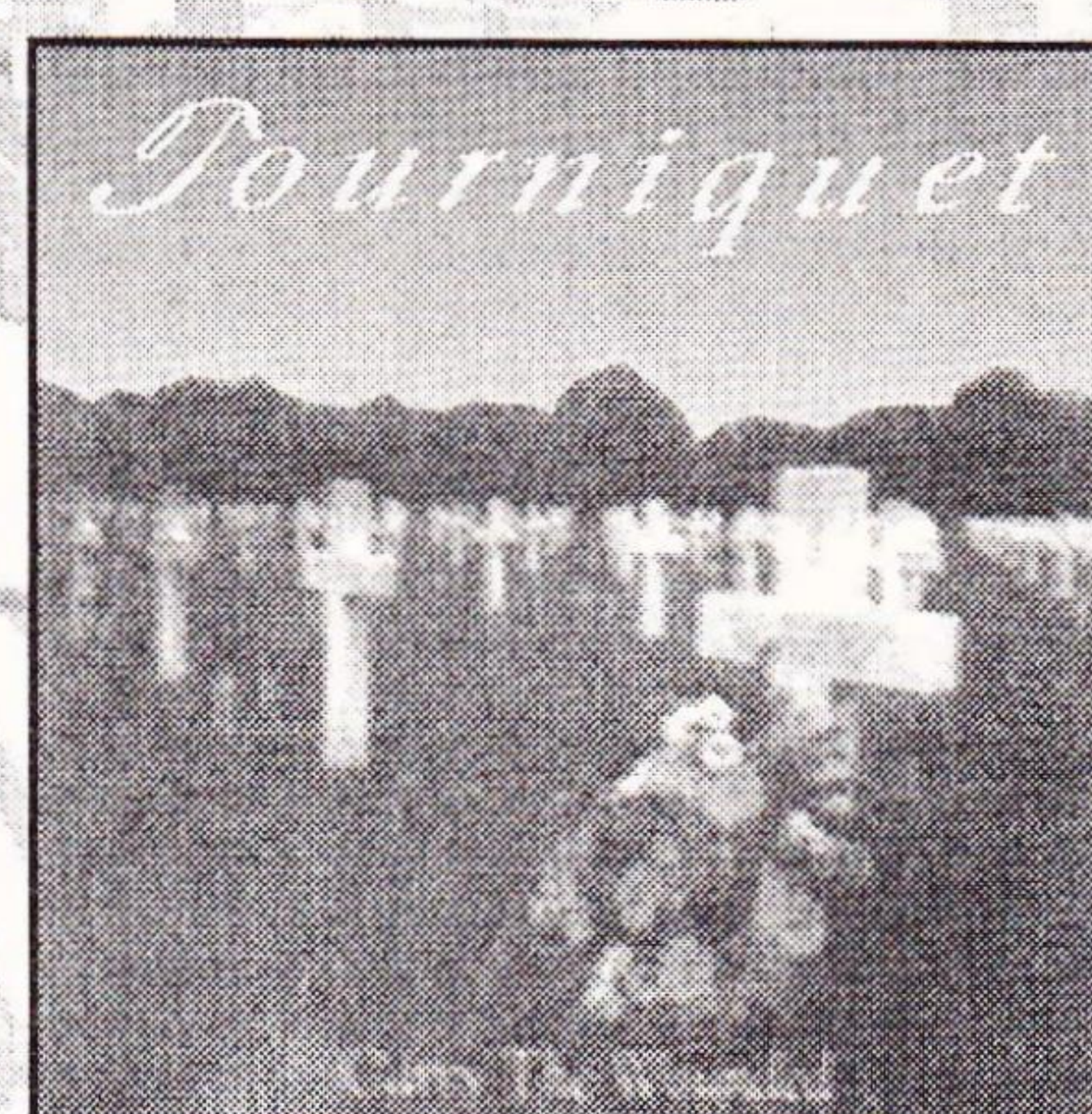
Focused
The Hope That Lies Within
Tooth & Nail Records



Plank Eye
Spark
Tooth & Nail Records

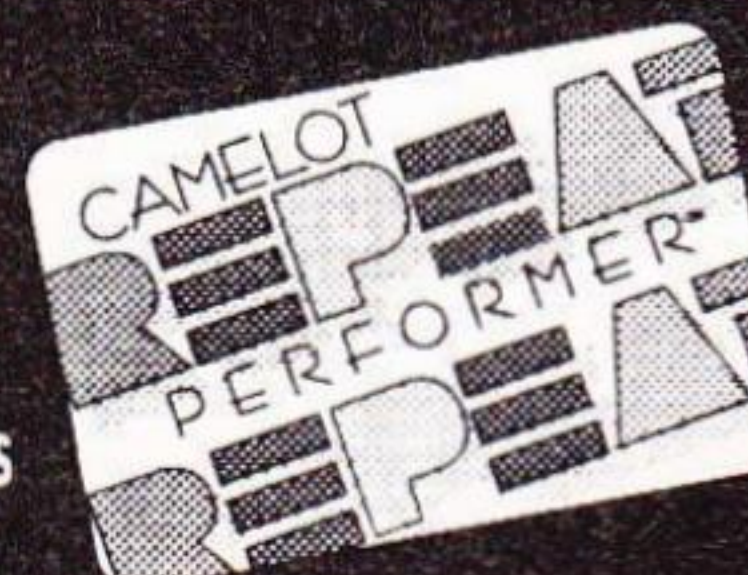


Hoi Polloi
Happy Ever After
Via Records



Tourniquet
Carry The Wounded
Intense Records

**BIGGER
BETTER**
Over 50 Gift Selections
To Choose From!



NEW
Frequent
Buyer
Program

Venus is not your average earringed, shaved-headed, red-star-on-head-painted, scary-looking guy. Even though he's been known to frequent the Nashville Home Depot, Venus, of the industrial rock group Fell Venus, is a Canadian-born, California beach raised, Biola educated artist -- both tactical and musical -- who has just released his first album, called "@," on Via records. Happens every day, right?

Well, a person like him may come across as nothing special dressed like that in, say Skatepunk USA (a.k.a.: Southern California), but in Nashville -- home of the hat and boot set -- Venus might be thought of as the devil himself. But don't let his looks fool you.

Venus is an overly polite, sensitive, and often shy individual, who only wants to keep the doors to his creative ambitions wide open. The new album is a traditional sounding hard rock album, as well as being an edgy alternative offering. Venus doesn't sing, he emotes. His angry sounding vocals are not so much anger as they are a release. He's not mad at the world, a la Nine Inch Nails, he's simply mad with creative energy.

"I went to school to study graphic design," recounts Venus when asked to explain how he got into music, "I got my degree in art. Music just allows me to get a lot of my aggression out." Though his music is aggressive, he's no tortured artist.

"To me," he continues, "the music is just an expansion of art. Writing lyrics and music is really an art form. And I approach it as an art form, and I use it to show different sides of myself."

Unlike so many bands, who practice for hours in garages and pay a lot of dues in hopes of that elusive record contract, Venus fell into this deal without a lot of struggle and strife.

"This is the debut project," replies Venus to the question about what other musical projects he may have been involved in before this one. "Via, they are putting out the coolest stuff. So, I really approached them, and talked to them about the concept, and how we would do it. They just ate it up. They didn't have anything on their label that was as aggressive. So, they really wanted to expand into that market with something along these lines, and they just brought me on." It's the nineties, babe: You need both a great demo and a great concept if you want to get signed these days. But don't go out and get a red star on your head. That's already taken.

For Venus, Via Records' reputation stood out as strikingly to him as his odd looks may stand out to others. Thus, Via was a natural location for him to take his "concept." "Just from being here a year and a half -- Nashville's a really small town -- just having a lot of friends in the industry, I knew them as friends."

Venus made these connections through his graphic art work, and not so much through his music. "I work here in Nashville as a freelance graphic designer, and I also do full time music." He's also done some art

Landing on Venus...

to it," he explains. "It's more of a personal expression. It's really quite a personal work. I really feel close to the lyrics. A lot of them are really a personal expression of some of the thoughts and feelings that I have, and experiences that I've gone through. Most of the lyrics are more about life circumstances -- feelings about going through life, and different troubles we come across -- and answer those problems. Or maybe finding out that there aren't answers or problems." Sounds like Carman to me.

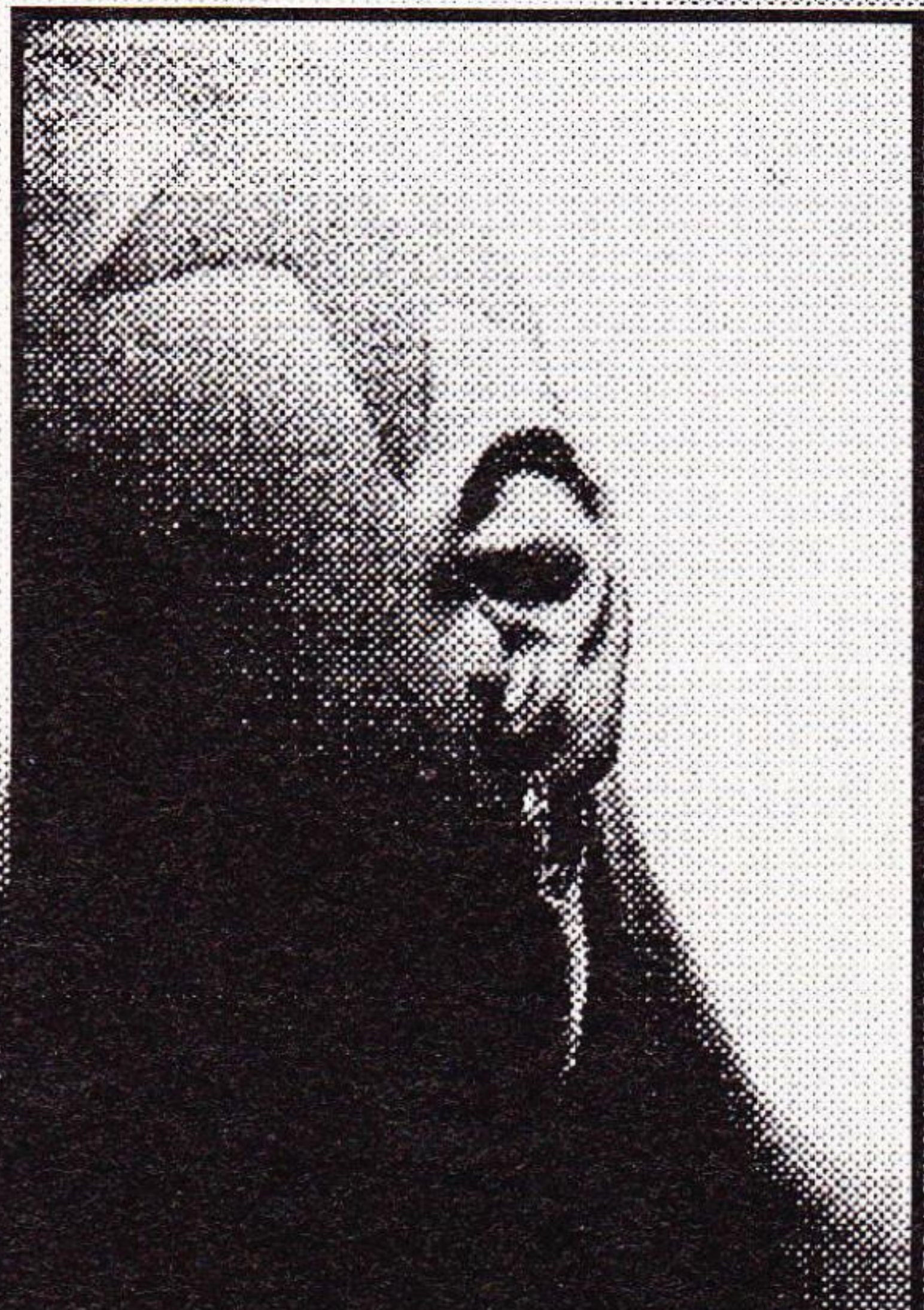
"I think they're scared to touch on a lot of topics," says Venus when I ask him if he thinks that Christians tend to hold back their true feelings. "They'd rather not deal with some issues. ... Almost turn their back on it. (Saying) 'there is no problem,' when there really is a problem."

Apparently, these feelings do not come from his experiences at the conservative Biola University. "Those are some of the best times I ever had. I have nothing bad at all to say about Biola. I'd do it all again. I loved that school. I made life-long friends there." Though he may have made life-long friends there, he probably didn't make it in to any of the pictures for Biola's recruiting booklets. Then again, I doubt he would be offended by this.

And does Venus have a message for the world? "It's more a statement of my personal art. It's the same way with graphic design or painting; or any form of art work. It's up to the viewer or the listener to try and grasp their own meaning from it."

I'd give Venus a great big gold star for the day for these thoughts, but there probably isn't enough room left on his head to put one there. But then again, art has a finite universe.

By Dan MacIntosh





Clash^{of} Symbols

Begging To Be Heard...

By Chris Callaway

Remember Mike Stand? Anyone familiar with the 1980's Christian rock scene should know this name, because Stand fronted the Altar Boys -- one of the earliest Christian alternative bands. Those of you who have missed Stand's presence on the ever-changing Christian rock scene will be happy to know that he's back in the scene again with a new group of seasoned musicians who are going by the name Clash of Symbols. Put on your reading glasses and get a glimpse into Clash of Symbols as leader Mike Stand speaks for himself and for the band.

How and when did Clash of Symbols form?

"Well, the guitar player, Rob, was a fan of the Altar Boys," explains Mike. "He was my guitar tech for a while in the Altar Boys toward the tail end of the band and then we started working together. I wasn't really going to start another band. I kinda figured I had done my thing. After the Altar Boys, I started to do my own solo thing, but I really wanted a band situation. So it happened where a concert was coming up where I really needed a band. For some reason, Robert

couldn't make this gig and I called Matt Chapman up; and I needed a drummer, and Matt said, "How about Steve?" So, we did this one concert together, and it felt pretty good. So, we made a one year commitment in '94, did the record, and the response has been so good that we decided Clash of Symbols is something that we want to commit to, and keep going with, as long as it continues in the right direction. It's obvious that God is opening up some doors for us."

What do you hope to accomplish as a band?

"This is a continuation of the Altar Boys' ministry and we have a purpose statement. One of the things is that we feel we can be both artists and have a music ministry at the same time. I feel that both are important. I'm an artist and music is my art. It's not just a tool. It's something through which I'm able to express my feelings about life, about a lot of Christianity, and my expression of who God is in my life. It's also a ministry. As a band, we're also encouraging the body, and letting people know the Good News of Christ."

What do you see as some of the

weaknesses in society today, that maybe you want to hit upon as a band?

"I see within society, certain subtleties as being our real enemy. I think that Satan is a lot more subtle than people realize. I have a song called, "If it Wasn't a Lie, Then it Would Be the Truth." It basically talks about how we, as a society, have been indoctrinated into believing in what Science has to say, because science is so 'sure,' not realizing that within a lot of the logic and a lot of the things they do, there are a lot of fallacies and a lot of problems. Within humanism, the thinking of humanism, there are a lot of fallacies and a lot of problems. As long as they present to you certain sections that are truth and leave out sections that are wrong, the sections that are true look so good."

Are there any experiences that you had with the Altar Boys; any lessons that you learned from that band, that you're carrying into this situation?

"Yeah. Own your publishing! That's the biggest lesson I learned."

Musically, how would you classify yourselves?

"Oh, we're kind of like the Beatles meet the Bee Gees (laughter). I don't know, I suppose we're a hard rock band. I think we're alternative. The thing about this band is that the musicianship is so high. Steve's an incredible drummer. He's got a lot of background in jazz, and the guy can lay it down."

Matthew Chapman has one of the most incredible ears for subdividing rhythms and hearing harmonies. It's amazing. Rob is a great asset. He's a great songwriter, and he's been a real great motivator for me. Without him, I probably wouldn't have started another band, because it's such a hassle. (Clash of Symbols) is a band. It's not Mike Stand and company, and that's why it works, because it is a band. Everyone has a vested interest in the group."

What can we expect from Clash of Symbols in the future?

"Well, we're finishing up our new record right now. It'll be out May fifth through Brainstorm/Diamante. It's called *Begging At The Temple Gate Called Beautiful*. It will have twelve songs on it. We may tour in the fall. I have to be real careful, because I'm a school teacher."

What prayer requests do you have as a band?

"Well, I think one would be that we would keep our priorities right. Two of us are married. It's important that we keep our marriages together. People could also pray for us that we would be keeping a perspective, and that we would just use godly wisdom in all the different endeavors that we have."

Do you have anything else that you would like to say to the readers of Heaven's Metal?

"I'm just grateful to be doing this again. I'm pleasantly surprised, but nevertheless surprised, that I could do this again and that people would embrace it."

HM

KOMEBACK KIDS: NEON CROSS

With the release of the current *Torn*, the lights have been turned back on for Neon Cross. And the switch that was used to turn that light back on was when Mike Betts formed Patriot Records -- which became Rugged Records -- and invited them to make an album for the label.

"When we came back together," says singer David Reeves, "Mike Betts, who had been the drummer for Neon Cross, started the label Rugged Records basically to facilitate P.K. Mitchell -- a guy who had also been in Neon Cross (playing guitar) for a long time. Mike basically built a label around Mitch; and, by doing that, he found himself in a position where he was selling this record, and people were saying, 'What next?' And he approached us. He approached Don Webster and I, and said, 'Would you ever consider doing another Neon Cross record?' And we said, 'Yeah.' We didn't really take him totally seriously. We thought it would be fun, 'If you want to foot the bill, we'd love to record.'"

So, with Betts signing the checks, Neon Cross made its return to the recorded world with three cuts on the *Premium Cuts* sampler, which also features Barren Cross, Red Sea, and, of course, P.K. Mitchell. And though this disc is meant to be a taste of what's to follow, the Cross believes that diners will think they've ordered the wrong menu item when they tear into *Torn*. "I don't think they (the three cuts) represent where we're at at all," states Reeves. "Mystery of Love' is real close to what we're doing right now; but, as far as the other cuts, they're not even close." These other cuts probably would have sounded cutting edge back in the glory days of heavy metal; but, in the modern world where metal is usually

fused with something else (take your pick from blues, psychedelia, punk, or thrash), sticking to just the basics is not going to grab the well-trained ears of today's music listener. So, just what is it that makes Neon Cross' bulb shine these days?

"Well," explains Reeves, "it's loud and it's right in line with alternative. Some of the stuff is just real hard rock; some of it is just flat out alternative. There's even an acoustic tune on here."

When it came to picking tunes for the album, different members brought already prepared music to the table for consideration. Don Webster brought a number of tunes that the band laughingly describes as Whitesnake-ish (Who was going to break it to Don that he was lost in the 80's?), and Reeves had some stuff that he just didn't think would fit into the Neon Cross repertoire, so it was decided that they get together and start from scratch.

"Most of the album was written in about two weeks, recalls Reeves. "And it went something like this: Don would start jamming on something, then Starky would hit the bottom, then Troy would jump in and get the vibe down; and, once the vibe was happening, we'd get that down on tape. And then I'd start writing lyrics and melodies over the top of it."

When Reeves wrote these lyrics, the songs, for the most part, came out relating strongly to the album's title -- *Torn*. "It's got this theme of dealing with disillusionment," explains Reeves. "You know, how things get bleak? It's kind of dealing with things we go through as believers, and how we deal with that. The first record that we did, back in '88, was really evangelistic. That was kind of what the point was



behind the whole record. This record is less evangelical; this is more heart-to-heart with God."

"Some of it's introspective," continues Reeves. "Some of it's crying out to God. Some of it's not introspective. Some of it's flat out before God."

Playing in a Christian rock & roll band, and not always knowing where the next paycheck is coming from (if one is coming at all!) can often serve to bring a person flat out before God. The Dead may have sung about what a long, strange trip it's been, but the Dead never tried to make a living in Christian music. I asked Reeves if he ever evaluates his life in Christian music, and wonders if it's all worth it, and if he considers himself a success.

"That's a good one to ask," he responds, "because I'm looking at life right now and I'm questioning the difference between God's sovereignty and opportunity. You know, the Lord provides us with all kinds of opportunity. I really don't think that when the Children of Israel reached the point of where they were going to enter the Promised Land -- although the

Lord is sovereign and he knew that they would fall back, and that they would falter, and that they would not want to go in because of the giants in the land -- although God knew that that was there, and that is the way that they would react, I don't know that that was what he desired for them. Caleb said, 'Hey, let's go lick 'em.' There was opportunity, and Caleb said, 'Let's do it.'"

"If everything ended tomorrow," Reeves continues, "and for some reason I lost my hands or something, I think in some respects I would not be upset with the Lord. I would be upset with me that it took me so long to realize that God has blessed me with numerous opportunities, and I let them go by the wayside. And one of the things that we discussed in the band was that the Lord basically gave us a killer record."

Reeves feels a lot of responsibility has come with such a gift: "We feel that if nothing happens with this record, that is because we didn't take advantage of the opportunities."

HM

BY DAN MACINTOSH

A Fish Called Walker



Wish for Eden was the first band Tooth & Nail ever released, and it was one of the bands that raised the label to its respected current level. Though Wish for Eden was a one-off record deal which will doubtfully have a CBA follow-up, lead vocalist/guitarist Rob Walker is currently recording a solo project for Tooth & Nail. HM's **David Jenison** recently talked with Walker at an early stage in the recording process to find out the state of Wish for Eden, and why the solo project.

SINCE YOU'RE DOING A SOLO PROJECT, I'M WONDERING: WHAT'S THE STATUS OF WISH FOR EDEN?

"Wish for Eden is kind of in a transitional period. We're still a band, but we won't be making another Christian record. I don't really like to talk about it, because I really don't have an answer. We are making a real effort to move into the general marketplace, so I don't feel it's appropriate to talk about the band in a Christian magazine.

"Still, there's a lot of music that could've been used on *Pet the Fish*, but wasn't recorded. Wish for Eden's style

has changed a lot in the past year, and I just wanted to record this music before we moved on into our next stage."

HOW WILL THE SOLO MUSIC SOUND?

"The music has the same sound as *Pet the Fish*. It's probably a little more raw and less mechanical. It has a looser feel."

WILL YOU BE USING MUSICIANS FROM WISH FOR EDEN TO RECORD THIS ALBUM?

"No. I think it will be Ed Giles (Mortal, L.S.U.) playing drums, and I'm not sure who's doing bass."

HOW FAR ALONG ARE YOU ON THE ALBUM?

"Originally, I was going to do everything. We recorded the drums for 12 songs, but I'd never played drums on an album before, so there's weird timing and problems like that. I'm going to go back and listen to all the songs, and I'll keep the good ones and have Ed redo the rest."

WHAT KINDS OF TOPICS DO YOU DEAL WITH ON THE ALBUM?

"My solo album takes up where *Pet the Fish* left off. The album is like a story that

talks about my childhood. It begins with where I started and goes to where I am now, talking about things that happened along the way. For example, the song 'Grow' tells how I was taught to love as a child, and therefore I understand love as an adult. My hope is that a person who's never known love can listen to it and understand what it is like to have love, which will hopefully open up his heart more."

NEITHER WISH FOR EDEN NOR YOURSELF ARE KNOWN FOR BEING BLATANT ABOUT YOUR SPIRITUAL BELIEFS. WHAT KIND OF PRESSURE HAS THIS CAUSED?

"Wish for Eden went on tour this summer, and we did mostly church shows. In some places, we had to sign a contract saying we'll talk about God during the concert. I never understood that. If you feel moved to talk about God, you should say something; but, if you don't, you're just forcing something that often does more damage than good. I'm not good at speaking. I do say things, but the best things that come out are from the heart."

"At one show, there was this pastor, who I don't think was part of the show, but he brought some kids. After everyone played, he said he wanted one member from each band to come back and talk to these kids. I went, and everyone was sharing from their life. It made me feel uncomfortable. I let my music do my talking. I can't sit down and win someone over to God by talking to them. I can show them through music, but it's hard for me to

go back and counsel a kid.

"If someone comes up and talks to me, that's one thing, but when I'm put back there in a group and all eyes are on me, I can't do it. Everyone's in there judging every word I say. They want to see how much I know. If you say the slightest thing wrong, no matter how sincere you are, there's always someone who'll flauntingly come in and correct you. It's done very pridefully, and makes you feel stupid."

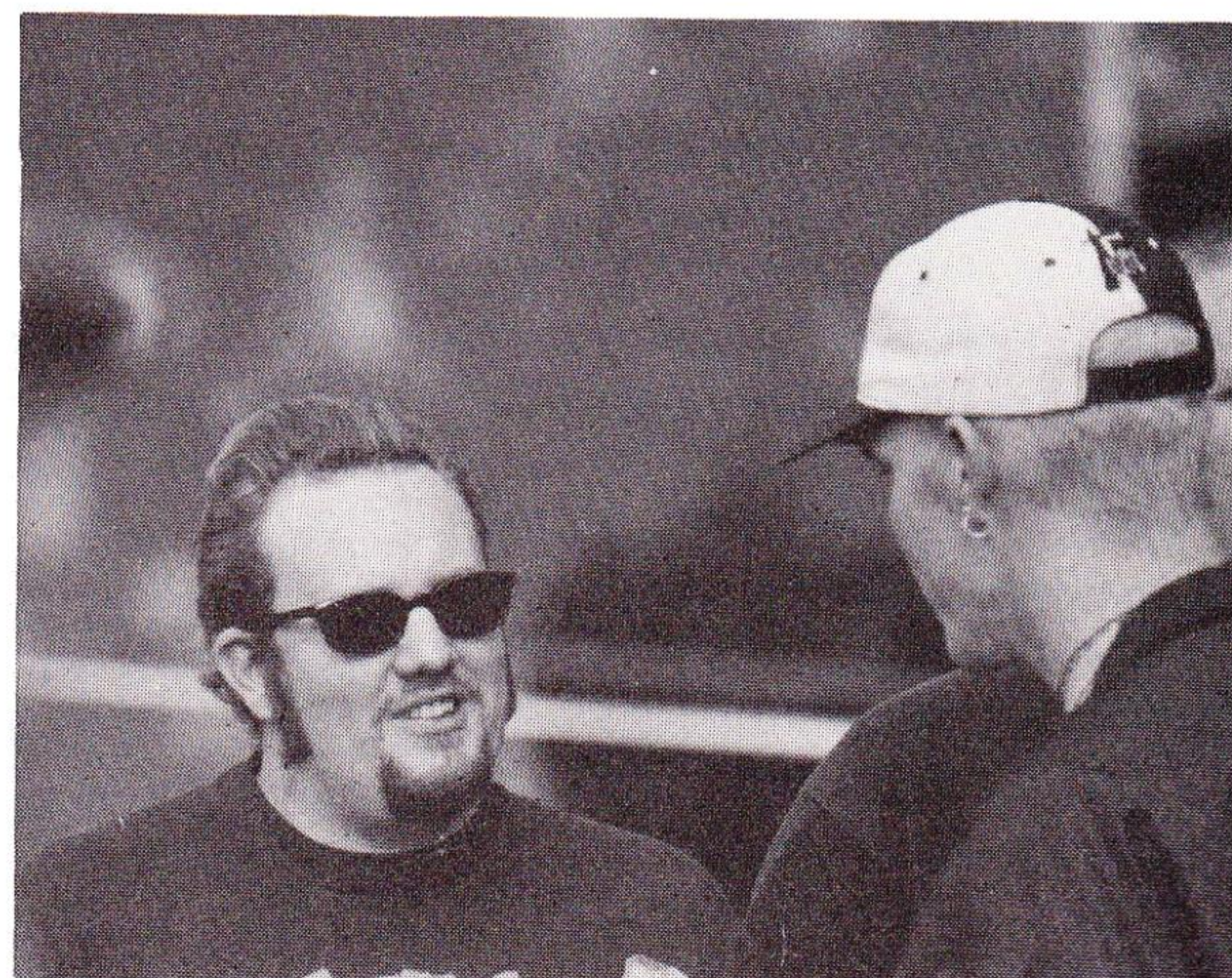
"I've always said I'm more of a friend. If you have a problem, come and talk to me. I'm just another kid that's struggling to make it, but maybe I've experienced something that can help."

HOW DID YOU ENJOY THE TOUR OVERALL?

"I really liked it. We had a good response. Most everyone was extremely friendly and kind. Financially, though, we further into debt with each show, which was intensified when the engine in our van blew up."

"Still, we toured the whole United States from California to Florida, and it's neat to go that far and realize the people in Florida are the same as the people here in California. They are scared of the same things and have the same problems. Coming to this realization was a very comforting thing for me to learn."

HM



XT - EXTENDING GOD'S EMPIRE

OK, folks! Here we go again. Hoist the sail and join us on a trip across the Atlantic waves and hook up with another interesting Swedish band. Yes, it's time for another outrageous and revealing report from **Staffan Gustafsson** on the Christian music scene over seas.

With their third album, *Extended Empire*, being released worldwide in February, I think it's time for XT to get some well-deserved attention in HM. When I reached guitarist Bjorn Stigsson on the phone, the album was just being finished in his home studio.

Forty-three year old Bjorn is a well-experienced musician with several albums under his belt -- four with Leviticus, and a solo album. Leviticus started in 1981, and did their last show in Fort Lauderdale in March, 1990.

"After that, I felt we had completed God's plan for the band," explains the gold-haired guitarist. "I came to the point where I was tired of the music and wanted to spend full time with God. We felt it was time to lay down the music for a while, get our priorities right, and just concentrate on God. I think it's very important for every Christian to ask themselves, 'What place has God in my life? Is He number one?' If He's not, you better do something about it! So, we decided to take a year off, and me and Sonny went to Bible school for one year.

"We actually did a reunion gig with Leviticus last spring, with the three original members: Me, Hakan Andersson, and Kjell Andersson. It was great fun. We really enjoyed it." But Bjorn states clearly that there are no plans for his old band to come to life again. A couple of months ago, Leviticus released a 'Best Of' album as a closing

chapter to the band's nine-year career. It was released worldwide through Viva records.

"Now we concentrate on XT and we're very fortunate to have a distribution contract with Viva Records that will enable us to reach worldwide. It feels great. Our first album was a little thin in terms of production, but it still opened up a lot for us, especially in Japan. We have actually sold more copies of our previous albums in Japan than anywhere else. Without doubt, people know us better over there than here in Sweden," Bjorn tells me.

The band has deliberately held a low profile, but now with their third album coming out, they are really hungry to come out and play live. Bjorn says that it hasn't felt this fresh and inspiring for a long time. "We feel that we've matured a lot and still have a lot to give. The quality of the new material is just what we wanted and now we've found a sound that we're very happy with. First, we will do a small tour in the major cities here in Sweden

in connection with the release of the album. We will, for instance, play at the Hard Rock Cafe in Stockholm. That will be very interesting. Then, of course, we hope to play Europe, Japan, and America -- if anybody wants us."

The name, XT, was Bjorn's wife's idea. It means Christ. The band started at the end of 1991, when Bjorn and Sonny got together and started working on some demos for the band's first album. Bjorn and Sonny have been friends since 1987, when Sonny did some of the background vocals on Bjorn's solo album.

XT has more or less permanent members now: with Bjorn on guitar, Sonny on vocals, Kjell Andersson (original Leviticus member) on drums, Niklas Jonsson on keyboards, and new bass player, Johan Stark, from Gothenburg.

The new album was digitally recorded at Bjorn's home studio, clocking in at about one hour. "It's definitely much heavier than the two previous recordings, with less keyboards and more guitar.

Sonny's vocals cover a more varied register.

"Like I said, we feel we have found our sound and we're very comfortable with the line-up and the band. We're still happy with the previous two albums; but, on this one, we have progressed into a heavier direction. It's not something we did deliberately, it just came out very naturally. I don't listen to a lot of music. I just don't seem to get any time. I like Dream Theater, though. But we're not really inspired by other bands. We try to write what comes out of our hearts and, hopefully, people will like it. There's more of a musical unity throughout the whole album, with a very guitar-oriented sound," Bjorn says, "with a couple of songs having the guitar tuned down to C, making it extra heavy."

"Lyrically, the album deals more with everyday life. We want to write lyrics ordinary people can relate to and understand -- both Christians and non-Christians. I don't believe in shoving a Bible down somebody's throat. We have always had the best



Bjorn Stigsson & Sonny Larsson

and most positive contact with the kids after our shows when we talk to them one on one.

"The new songs on the album include 'Not Alone,' which is a slow and heavy track about a guy in a mental care institute. He feels alone and is going through a hard time mentally. At the end of the song he finds that he is not alone and he is set free by Jesus. 'I Can't Live Without You' is about being totally dependent on God. Another track is 'Billy The Raver,' which is about a guy struggling with his guitar to become a guitar hero (something like 'Johnny B. Goode'). 'XT-Land' is a fast, boogie-woogie track, which is a little lighter and happy-sounding. There's also a re-recording of the old Leviticus track, 'Deborah and Barak' -- as a bonus track on the CD version. 'I Want Love' is a fast love song with double-bass drums. 'The Battle' is about the fight between good and evil -- a very heavy track with some opera singers in the chorus.

"'Five Minutes to Midnight' is one of my personal favorites," Bjorn says. "It's about a guy sitting, switching channels with his remote control, and seeing all the war and violence on TV. The song has a very strong chorus and is very heavy and raw. 'Castles in the Sky' deals with TV preachers and hypocrisy among Christians. It's a little different musically, with a touch of Beatles and some heavy guitars. 'Kids on the Hill' starts with some acoustic guitars, only to emerge into yet some more heavy distortion. The lyrics tell about Sonny growing up in his old childhood neighborhood.

"'On the Run' is about the forgotten children of Brazil, where they can be shot by the police for just being on the street, and are outside the protection of the law. It's basically a cry for help. We feel very strong for the children in this world. They are our future. Hopefully, we can help to make people aware of what's going on, and that we need to do something about it. Both me and Sonny feel a very strong commitment toward the children in the third world, and we're both involved in children sponsorship programs. By sharing love, you can make an eternal difference in the life of another individual -- providing them food, clothing, medicine, and education."

Bjorn is a busy man. He also works as a high school music teacher and is very interested in music production. He will produce a Gospel album for a Swedish artist. The album will be recorded in Bjorn's home studio. "It will be very exciting. I'm not that used to working with Gospel music, but it's going to be a great challenge.

"Finally, I would like to encour

age all the readers of HM to keep an intimate and faithful relationship with Jesus -- both in prayer and reading the Bible. Always try to reach out to the people outside the church. God bless you all!"

There we went, and here we are. That was everything you wanted to know about XT, but were afraid to ask. And remember that Jesus and salvation, which are the best things in life, are free. Tax free... **HM**

Tourniquet cont'd:

something more? And, not to laugh about that, because I feel every song we've done has credibility, and is not ridiculous in any way; but you've done something, and we're not going to rehash the same thing; which, as you know, many bands do. So, it's time to move on and grow musically. Which is not to say that when we play live, we won't play 'Skeezix' and all the really heavy stuff."

Did you, at any point, get the sense that all the medical terms and analogies went over people's heads?

"Some people were a little confused by our lyrics," admits Gary. "But, even when anybody is interested in reading one of our tunes, if there's something confusing medically -- say, on the *Psycho* or *Pathogenic* records -- there's also extremely clear and blatant lyrics in every one of those songs. And, although there may be places where people may not know what a word means -- we've actually had dozens of people write us and say that they've been inspired to study from one of our songs. People have done homework assignments on Tourniquet songs. There's all different kinds of ways to reach people, as we see in the Bible, when Jesus uses parables constantly."

"It was never done to confuse people, either," explains Ted. "It was done to educate and approach it from a different and original way, hopefully, to get a point across."

"For Tourniquet, too," adds Gary, "it's kinda cool to do something that's not likely. It's important for us to be creative. We're constantly looking around us, and hopefully doing something that not a lot of other people are doing within our industry. And it's hard to do; but again, after you do it, you move on."

You've also got a new video out, in addition to the EP. Were you all involved in visualizing what you wanted to accomplish with *Pushin' Broom*?

"Yes," answers Gary, "we had quite a few meetings on concepts and ideas. As with anything else that Tourniquet does, we all brainstorm with different ideas and we pick and choose from the things that appeal to us the

most. In this case, especially the imagery of 'Bearing Gruesome Cargo' in a physical sense. Obviously, it's a spiritual or psychological connotation as well, but that's the kind of imagery I've seen in movies like *The Mission* -- where very relevant issues are brought to visuals.

"With stuff like the photo collage, it offers the viewer to see something that, under normal circumstances, would never be shown to the public. Those are things that we thought would be kinda neat for some people out there, who are interested in a different look at Tourniquet."

"Bearing Gruesome Cargo" is a clip that definitely enhances the meaning of the song, rather than taking on a bigger importance than the song itself, which is, unfortunately, a common occurrence in music videos today. Was that the approach you took in preparation for the shoot?

"We wanted the live footage of the band to be totally different than the conceptual footage," says Ted. "So, without being totally obvious or obtuse with it, we wanted to make sure that the point came across in the video. It was intentional, and I think that anyone that reads the lyrics -- or even if they don't -- can understand much better from watching the video."

It makes a great point about being responsible for your own actions. We so often use our past as a cop-out for behavior in the present.

"And unfortunately," adds Ted, "when we do that, a lot of people generally get trampled in the process of us saying, 'This is why I am the way that I am,' and that, 'I can't really help it, if my past wouldn't have been what it was, then I would be a much more adaptive person.'"

"And Christ's help in knowing who we are in Christ is very important. We need to realize that, obviously, we are fallen people, but we can have Christ-like qualities -- without being perfect. So, realizing our place in who we are, and who God made us -- that we're new creatures -- are things we need to remember. People can definitely change through a healthy understanding of who we are."

Any closing thoughts?

"We're doing some dates in the Midwest," says Gar, "and also some on the East coast in May, June, and July -- and we hope to see everyone there. And I just want to say that Tourniquet is more than just alive and well; we're just as committed to what we're doing now than we've ever been. And we're at a time now, where in Christian music, sometimes people are a little frustrated with some of the bands that might have let down some of the kids out there. I just want to say that Tourniquet is dedicated to God first, and to playing music that hopefully brings smiles to people's faces, and encourages them in the Lord."

HM

STRYPER



Robert Sweet (IHS Photos)

Larry Norman got the ball rolling, and REZ made sure it was heavy, but NOBODY has had the kind of impact on Christian hard music that Stryper has. As we head into our 10th year of publishing here at Heaven's Metal, we thought there was no better time than the present to put together a tribute for Stryper. We talked to brothers Robert and Michael

Sweet and Tim Gaines to get their recollections of the early days, the gold & platinum days, and the present days, as well as a couple of other musicians to talk about the impact Stryper had on Christian music.

HIGHLIGHTS

"I feel a lot of joy for what happened with Stryper,"

says Robert. "We definitely weren't the biggest band in the world, but I'm glad that we made a mark and we stood up for Christ in the

way that we did. In different parts of the world, we actually saw people come to us and go, 'Hey! You really helped me to think about Jesus in a way that I never thought before.' I look back at that and I'm real happy about it. I have millions of memories of being on stage and playing in front of huge crowds and absolutely being astounded and watching God answering all the prayers I prayed and being so grateful and so happy. With Stryper, I remember the hard times... Some of it was tough, too, but the good times were ten to one. So, from '83 to '91, most of them were good memories and good times -- a lot of God's blessing. I hope the 90's can hold for me what the 80's did."

"I'm sure each band member has their own highlights," adds Michael, "but I think the highlights in my opinion were back when we were in the garage and we were rehearsing and having Bible studies. There was a time there for a while, where we were cramming about 35 to 40 people in there. We would perform and then have a Bible study. A guy named Michael Guido would lead it. Every time we would do that, which was sometimes once a week, sometimes more often than that, a lot of people were coming to the Lord. That was just really an incredible highlight for me. I always remember and look back to that."

"One of the other highlights was when the *To Hell With The Devil* album just took off and we were out on tour and they released 'Honestly' and it became a top-40 single and the record went from gold status to platinum status within a couple of months. That just blew us all away. It was just incredible. It was unbelievable. It really was. It was hard to believe that this group of four kids, who musically, in my opinion, weren't

incredibly talented -- we were given talents, but we weren't like the best at our craft -- but God, because of our hearts and our sincerity, just took us to this place that not a lot of Christian groups have been to. It just opened up a door and we moved up into arenas and had the opportunity to just share with thousands and thousands of people. We were in awe. We were just so blown away. Our eyes were wide open and our mouths were wide open."

"It was a really unique situation, because so many doors were opened that may have never been opened. It's not like I'm sitting here saying, 'Hey man! Because of me and Stryper, that's why.' It's not like that. God chose us -- for whatever reason -- to open those doors. It blows my mind, because we were just four kids who... you know, He could've used anybody. He could've used anyone out there, and He chose us. The rest is history. When I think about that, it just blows my mind. It is really something that should never have happened, and it did! It was awesome."

THE PRESENT

Michael's departure from Stryper to pursue a solo career pretty much put a screeching halt to Stryper at the time, but many of those disappointed fans rejoiced when Michael and his band hit the road. "I received some really good feedback on my solo tour," says Michael. "We did a tour for about six months. Three months were promotional stops and three months were live. There were a lot of Stryper fans that kind of came on board and came along with me who are now Michael Sweet fans, but we also gained a lot of new fans -- people who have never even heard of Stryper. It is really cool to see



Tim Gaines (Photo by Michael S. Joray)

SALUTE

that: a lot of the younger people, who were probably seven or eight years old and stuff when Stryper was around."

"I'm hoping to get myself in the studio in the next couple of weeks," explains Robert, "to finish the Danger Angel project that I've been working on the last two years. That's pretty much been most my time -- just writing songs. It got to the point to where I had so many musicians walk out on me, I just sat down and said, 'That's it!' I just started writing songs myself -- playing the bass, the guitar parts, and the drum parts -- writing the melodies and the lyrics and everything. Now I'm working with Larry Worley from Fear Not. He's gonna be vocalizing on the Danger Angel stuff."

"The sound I've been going after is a very simple, very heavy sound. Yet, at the same time, I don't want to say too much about it. A lot of times I've said stuff about things and then it'd end up actually being a problem for me (At this point, Robert played a cut over the phone... wish you all could've heard it! Larry carries his notes a little longer than he used to, giving the tune a "grunge in chains" kind of vibe, while the guitars crunch along a good melody with more of a classic metal distortion and tone).

"I tell ya, I want to go out and play live some more. It's an awfully fun thing and I enjoy it very much. I'm supposed to be going out and doing some dates with the King James project, but I'm trying to do my Danger Angel thing here. There's been the mention of a possible Stryper reunion. Of course, I would be very much into that. I think that would be very exciting and a lot of fun. So, between those two things, I think I'm keeping myself busy."

KING JAMES

"I had a real fun time recording the *King James* album. Rex and Jimi are just incredible guys. Rex is a phenomenal guitar player, as everybody knows, and Jimi is a phenomenal singer. I think I was hooked up with those two guys at a point in my life when I was really down. They really helped kind of pull me up a lot. It was basically a thing where I got a call and was asked to play on the record. It was already completed and I was asked to just come in and play the drum sections. I just said, 'I'd love to do it.' I went in and had a real fun time. I think it was probably one of the most fun times in the studio I've ever had."

"I would say that it's more Rex and Jimi's record, with me playing drums. I know they want me to play on the next record, and I heard they want my input as far as songwriting. I think that's great. Personally, I think it would be cool to see a few changes take place on the next King James record. I think the next record will be what I would term 'heavier.'"

REUNION?

"I'm very open to a Stryper reunion," states Michael. "I've been talking about it for a while and announcing it at shows, and people have been very excited about it. But, the only way it could happen for me if it was a sincere thing -- if it wasn't a thing to do just to put some cash in everyone's pocket. If it's a real thing, and it looks like, 'Hey, let's do this and play some more live,' then I'm into it. If it's anything other than that, I'm just not into doing it. God keeps telling me that it may happen. I just don't know when. It could be a couple years, or a year. It could be ten years. I don't know."



Michael Sweet (IHS Photos)

"I feel that Stryper was never over with," says Robert. "To this day, in my own opinion, I still don't quite know why Stryper ended. I know my brother wanted to pursue what he's doing now and I think he's doing a good job at that, but I think that could've still happened while Stryper was taking place. I know that there are literally thousands of people out

there who didn't understand why Stryper had to end. Maybe there was a reason. I know that every business, every band, everything out there... nothing

lasts forever, but I do know the bands that seem to stick it out do so even amidst problems. Every band goes through problems. It's not a reality to think that bands don't go through problems. If you look at bands, like Aerosmith or Cheap Trick, or Petra... Look at Petra! The only original guy in that band is Bob, the guitar player. Talk about going through problems! How



Oz Fox (IHS Photos)

many . . . 25 different musicians?! Yet, he's still around. I say stick-to-it-iveness is where it's at. Stryper never got to do its seventh record. I feel it wasn't over. I feel it's not over. Hopefully, real soon, something will happen."

TRIBUTE ALBUM

Even though Stryper doesn't exist as a band right now, 17-plus bands have gone into the studio to breath new life into their songs. Alex Parker, founder of Flying Tart Records and producer of *I Predict A Clone - The Steve Taylor Tribute Album*, has put together the Stryper tribute album, which is as yet unnamed. "I'm not sure whether to call it *Sugar, Sugar* and use a cartoon of the guys in Stryper dressed like The Archies," confesses Alex, "or call it *The Yellow And Snack Attack* and feature a big old slice of lemon pie on the cover.

"The reason I put together this tribute album was that I was a big Stryper fan in high school, which was when they were pretty much in their prime. I saw 'em live; enjoyed 'em much; and hey, if I didn't do it, who would? Steve Taylor is the first one I wanted to take care of, Stryper was the second, and I think that'll probably do it for this tribute thing. I think both of those bands probably had the biggest effect on my Christian walk in high school.

"All the people on this record were Stryper fans. All of 'em pretty much grew up with Stryper. I think there is only one or two people on the record that were contemporaries with them and actually in the music business at the same time. Everyone else, they've come along in the past couple of years.

"Morella's Forest did 'Calling On You.' Fluffy and Ralph Mellish, a spoken word artist, did 'Honestly.' Soulfood 76 did

'Free.' The Blamed is doing 'Soldiers Under Command.' Havalina Rail Co. did 'Always There For You,' which is very interesting. Joe Christmas did '(Waiting For) A Love That's Real.' Argyle Park did sort of a medley of 'Lonely' and 'I Believe In You.' Celldweller did the intro to 'Abyss.' Steve Hindalong, of all people, is doing 'To Hell With The Devil.' Blenderhead did 'Rock The Hell Out Of You.' Believer is still up in the air. If they have time, they're gonna do it. Poor Old Lu is doing 'Holding On.' There's possibilities of extra tracks from people like Mortification. Since all the tracks from *To Hell With The Devil* were done, that will be the track listing of side one of this record.

"It's more of an alternative slant. I guess sort of like that Kiss tribute -- more of a reinterpretation of songs, but there will be some metal on there. I'm hoping we can do a cool, low-budget video for 'Calling On You,' because it has a good vibe. It's that whole girl rock thing that's real popular these days."

"I think the tribute album idea is really cool," says Michael. "I haven't heard it, though. It'd be kind of cool if I had the time, or if someone from the group had the time, to be involved with that. It didn't work out that way."

OZ AND TIM

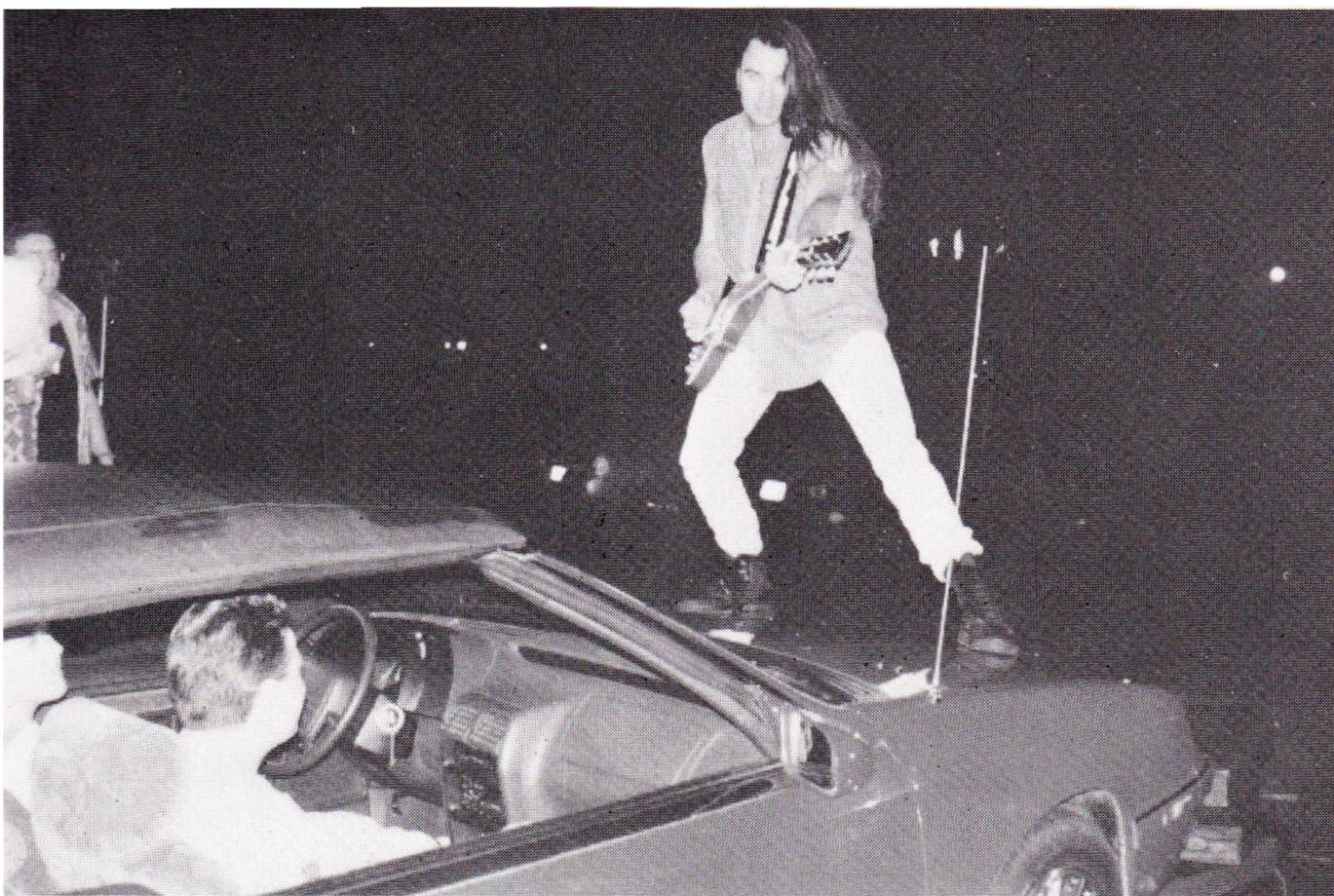
Getting ahold of Oz Fox and Tim Gaines was a feat almost too great to achieve for this article. One reason being is that they (or, at least Tim) are trying to kind of distance themselves from being in Stryper. "I kind of avoid the fact that I was ever in Stryper, to be honest," admits Tim. "It's hard to get any kind of work, because of Stryper. I can't get into another band because of Stryper. I think I'm sort of blackballed from the music industry because of it. It's always one thing or the other. It's either, 'You're a Christian' and they don't want you; or they want you to play heavy metal, when I never play heavy metal. That wasn't my style of music that I enjoyed anyway. The gigs that I do get, you know, are the hard rock stuff, like the King James, which was nice, but I wasn't into that. I've had some opportunities to get in some pretty big bands, and they blow me over, because of the whole Christian aspect -- regardless of whether I could play or not. That's the reason I'm trying to forget about it, I guess.

"Oz and myself kind of have a band together, but that's about it. It's not really anything serious. We're just writing songs together. We're both working regular jobs, trying to support our families. We're just trying to make ends meet. After Stryper broke up, we all lost everything, pretty much. We got sued by a bunch of people and it's all a pretty big mess. I'm worse off now than I

HM #53

Mr. Danger Angel Wearing His Favorite Shirt





Mike On the set of the "Ain't No Safe Way" Video

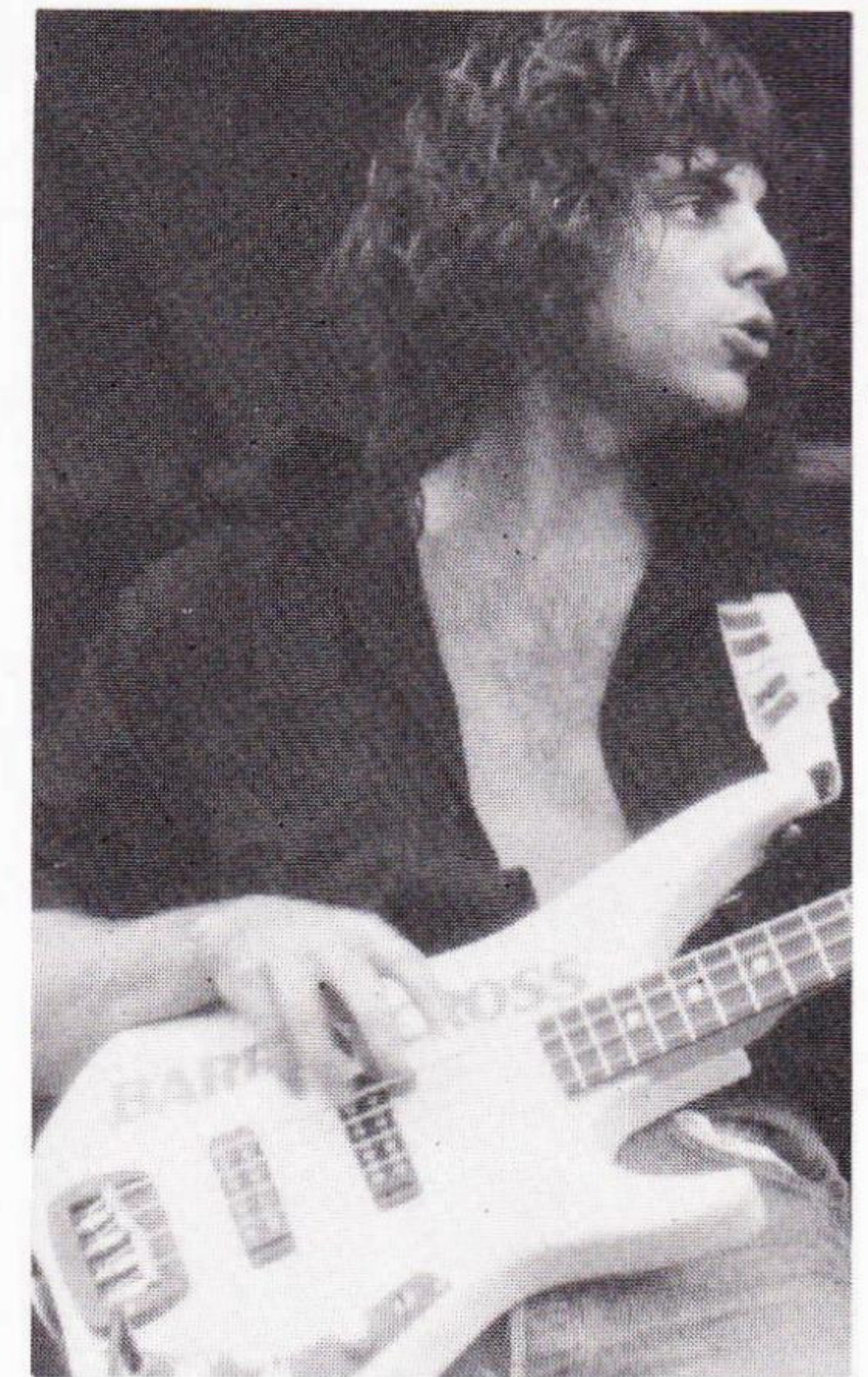


Photo by Steve Craig

ever was before I ever got into Stryper financially. I'll be owing people for the rest of my life for money that I never even saw.

"Personally, I'm doing great. It's humbling going back and working a regular job. It took me a while . . . it took me three years, actually, to get to the point where I had to go out and make a living. I realized I had to put all the pride aside and go out and make a living. The Lord's been dealing with me and the whole pride aspect. I should just be happy whether or not I have a lot or have little. I need to be content with what I have and what He's given me. I am. It took me a long time to learn that, though."

Be looking for this Stryper tribute album in early June; and the next Michael Sweet album sometime in August; and the next King James record in the early spring of '96. If Oz and Tim's new band get anything going, you'll see it in Heaven's Metal as soon as it breaks.

And, from all of us at Heaven's Metal, a big THANK YOU to Stryper, the band that graced our first cover and allowed God to do some big things through them. HM

WHAT OTHERS SAY:

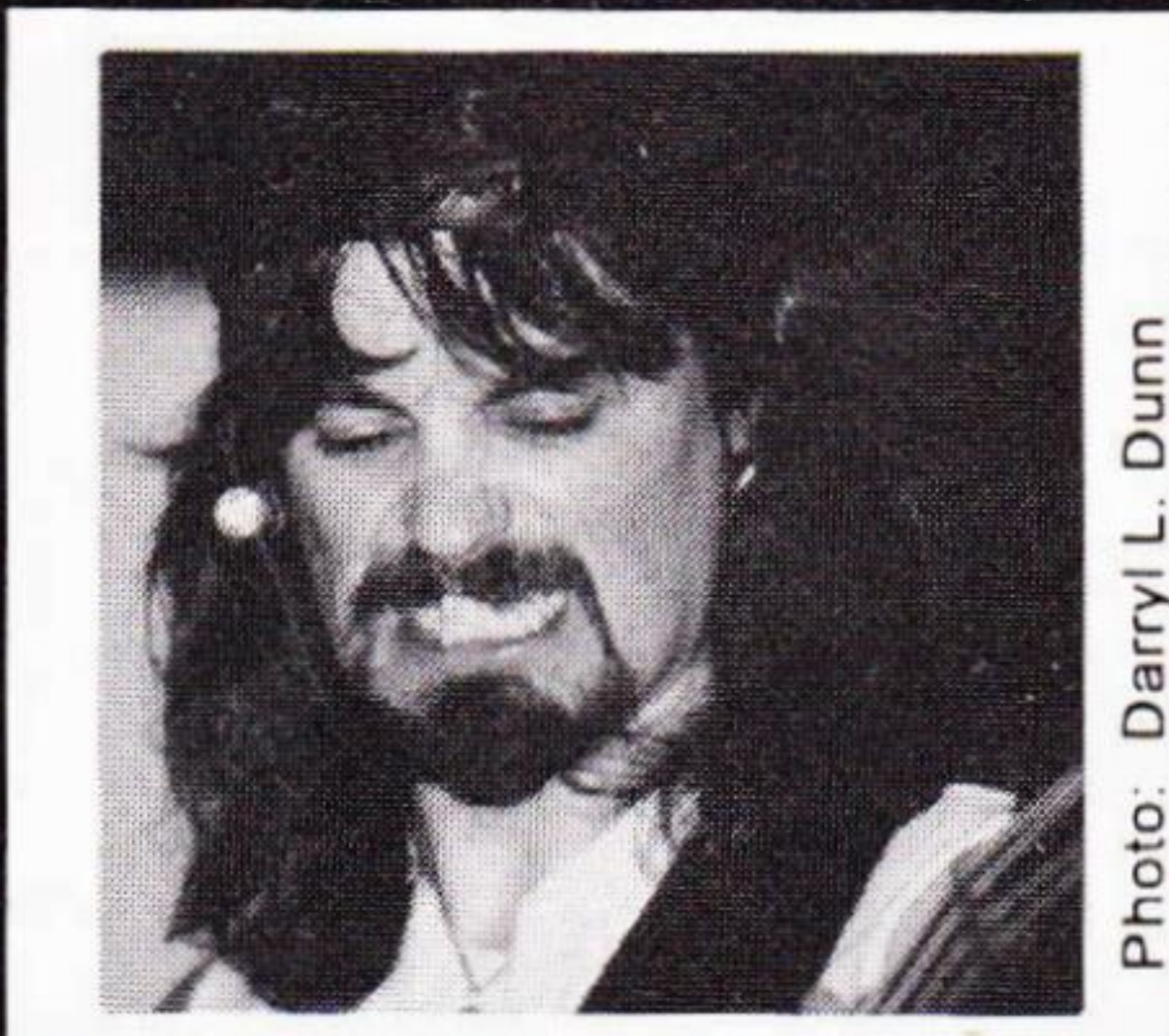
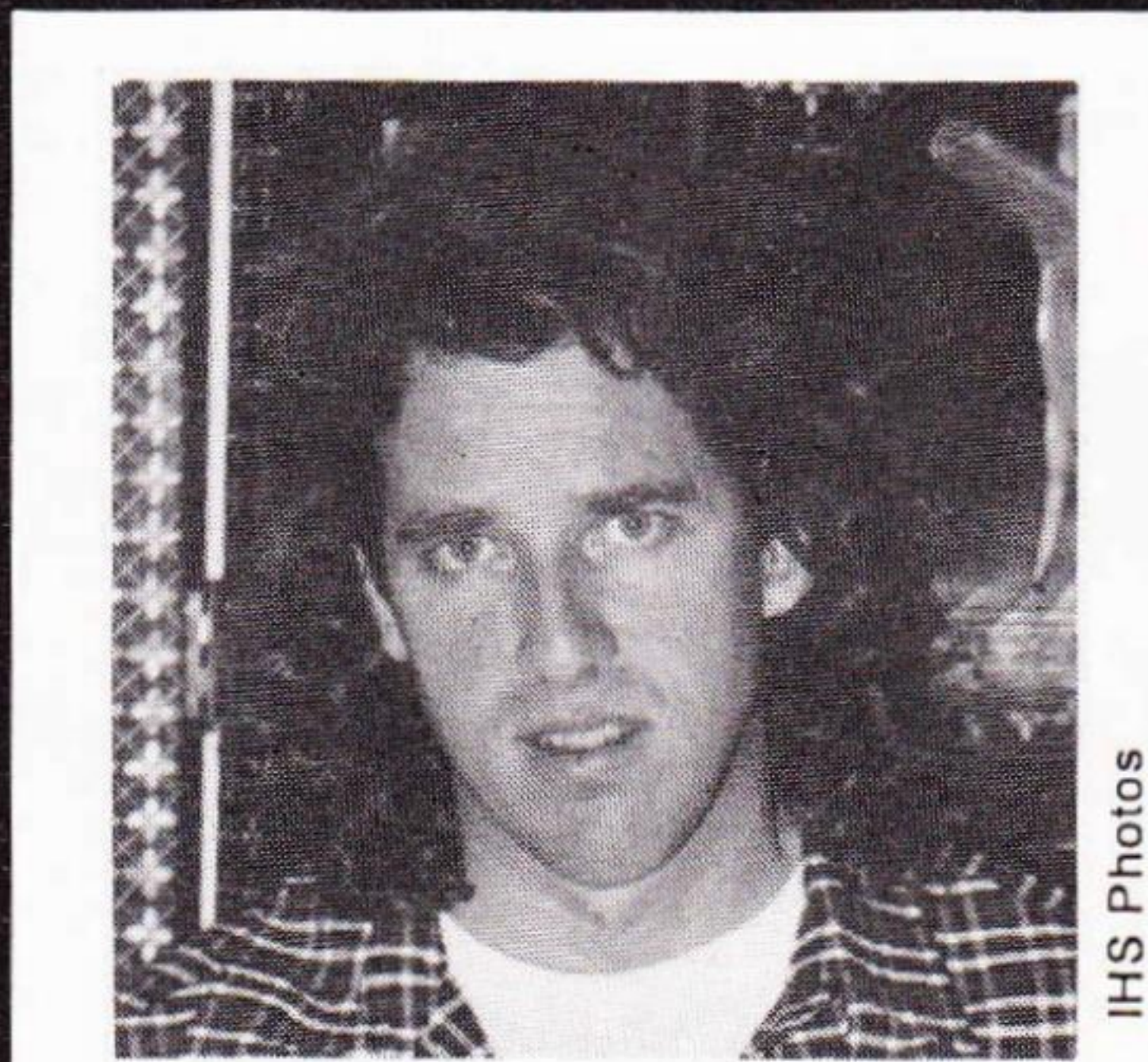


Photo: Darryl L. Dunn

"Stryper showed me that it could be done. I just wanted to do it in a heavier way."
--Steve Rowe (Mortification)



IHS Photos

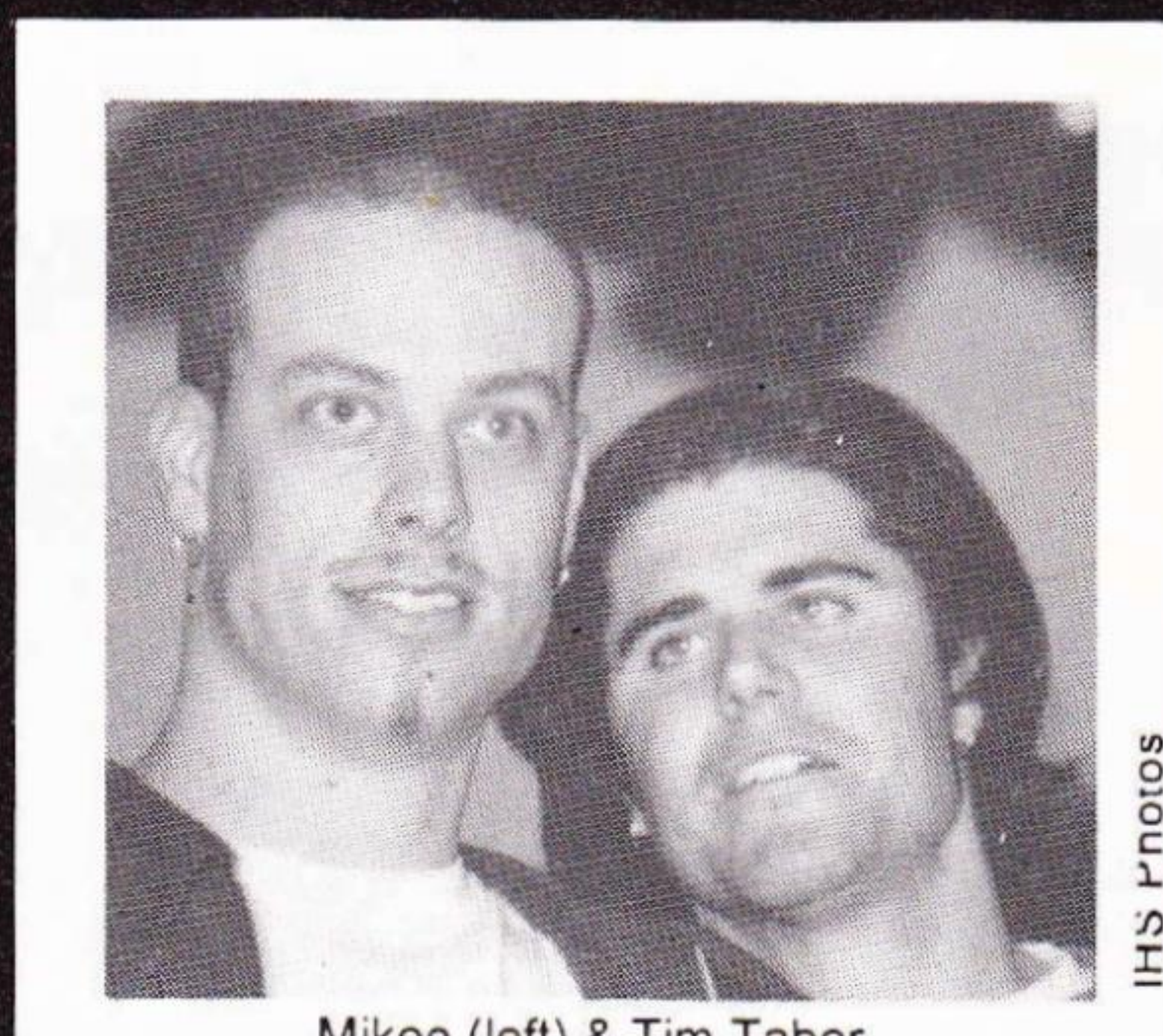
"I remember the exact spot I first heard *In God We Trust* -- driving along Pacific Coast Highway. I remember the buzzsaw guitar sound, the great vocal chorus, and that huge drum sound!

"I thought of the thousands of people whose walk with the Lord was sweeter (no pun intended), because God used these four guys in such a powerful way.

"They presented the Gospel, God's all-encompassing love for us, the gift of His Son, and the joy (have we forgotten about joy?!!) of fellowship with God and each other in such a clear way that people could understand it.

"We, as musicians, owe them a great deal for their professional influence over all of us, in one way or another. I personally always appreciated Robert's excellent drumming -- so solid and powerful."

-- Ted Kirkpatrick (Tourniquet)



IHS Photos

Mikee (left) & Tim Tabor

"A couple things that really stick in my mind about Stryper was Barren Cross' very first show. Both Michael and Bobby came to our show and came backstage and prayed with us and supported us.

"Through Stryper and, I think, because of what they did, Sanctuary got started. They were involved with Sanctuary in the early days and they contributed quite a bit. The thing that happened with Stryper was a once-in-a-lifetime event. I don't know if we'll ever live the rest of our life to see anything as unique and as powerful as what they started and during the thriving years. The only word that I can possibly use to describe what happened during those years is 'revival.' I believe that Stryper was the center of a revival that hit the rock and roll community like nothing we've ever seen before or maybe we'll never see again. Hopefully, we'll see it again.

"When you'd go to their concerts, you'd just feel the presence of the Lord. Nobody can describe the feeling of it. There was just a heavy anointing. You walked out of there feeling like you just had an experience with the Holy Spirit. They threw Bibles out and stuff, but they spoke minimally. They didn't have to speak, almost, because the Holy Spirit was just there so heavily that you couldn't walk out of a Stryper concert not knowing that the Lord was there.

"It hit America. They had number one videos on MTV. They toured. We got to be part of their tour at one point, and it was an awesome experience. I really thank God for Stryper. Because of them, they helped bands like Barren Cross, Bloodgood, and on down the line -- Tourniquet, and some of the other bands. We definitely owe them a debt. I hope that someday they get back together and we get to see 'em."

-- Jim LaVerde (Barren Cross)

"Stryper stretched the boundaries of Christian music and widened the avenue for Christian hard rock. If you really think about it, Stryper and bands like Undercover and The Altar Boys revolutionized the underground hard rock and metal communities."

-- Mikee (Sometime Sunday)



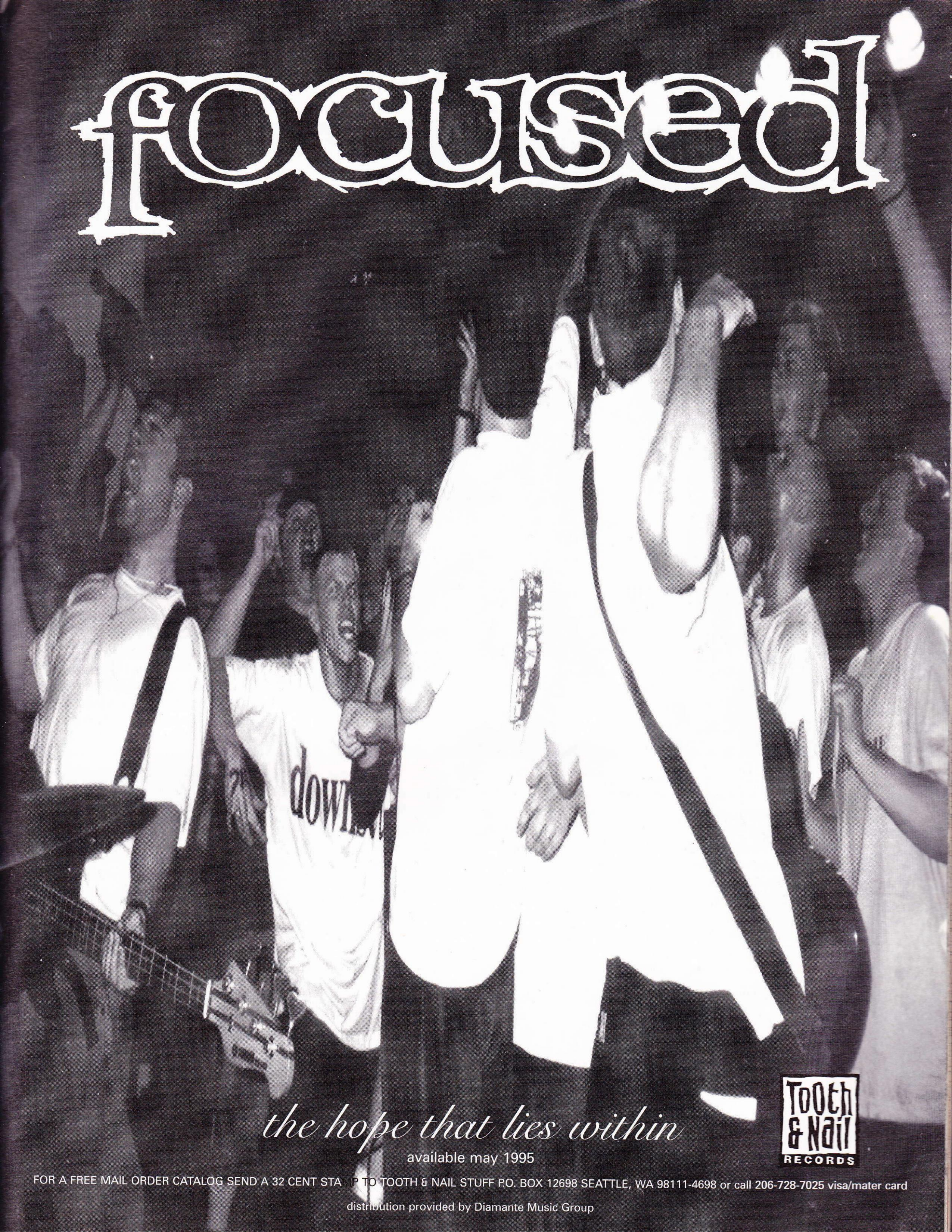
SOMETIME SUNDAY-DRAIN
AVAILABLE NOW



**Tooth
& Nail**
RECORDS

FOR A FREE MAIL ORDER CATALOG SEND A 32 CENT STAMP TO TOOTH & NAIL STUFF P.O. BOX 12698 SEATTLE, WA 98111-4698 or call 206-728-7625 visa/mastercard

focused



the hope that lies within

available may 1995

**TOOTH
& NAIL**
RECORDS

FOR A FREE MAIL ORDER CATALOG SEND A 32 CENT STAMP TO TOOTH & NAIL STUFF P.O. BOX 12698 SEATTLE, WA 98111-4698 or call 206-728-7025 visa/master card

distribution provided by Diamante Music Group

King's X Finally Vents...



King's X, every musician's favorite band, is marching on in the face of a changing music business and continuing to make the music that makes them tick. Caught in between the process of writing songs and recording songs for the new album, bassist/vocalist Doug Pinnick sat down to fill us in on what's been going on in the King's X camp.

"We're in the studio doing demos," explains Doug. "We've got seven new songs we just did ourselves. I'm real excited about 'em, just because we did 'em ourselves this time -- without a producer. It was just fun to do it as three people -- without having to deal with

someone else's idea that wasn't a part of the band. I'm not saying that anything is wrong with that, but it was just something we needed to do. It was sort of us rediscovering ourselves. It made me feel like what we were before we got signed and started working with producers and stuff. Our manager's got that (tape), and I guess we're shopping that around to get a producer for the next record. Hopefully, we're gonna talk the record company into letting us produce ourselves. We're pretty excited about it."

WHY DID YOU PREACH DURING THE BRIDGE OF "OVER MY HEAD" EVERY NIGHT ON

THE LAST TOUR?

"I always used to do that on 'Over My Head.' I've been doing that for a long time, but the flavor changed and that was after I learned some things about my childhood and my grandmother and my life that I guess I just suppressed or didn't look at. To preach that stuff about loving your children and how screwed up kids are nowadays... I felt I needed to that, because I'd see it so much and am around it so much, and I am a part of that, even though I'm much older than the kids out there. But they're going through the same things that I was going through. There's a lot of people out there that are just embarking

on parenthood, too. You can preach Jesus to kids all day long, but if you don't go in there and try to understand their problems and their pain, it doesn't do any good. These kids don't want it.

"From the letters and the comments I've gotten, it's been pretty overwhelming about how fathers have written me saying they're spending more time with their children now; and other people say that similar situations happened to them -- abandonment, child abuse, and stuff. It helped them not feel alone, and they felt it was important. Many people said they cried going home thinking about it. It just challenged people to love their children and to care for each other.

"I've got lots of letters from Christians who are upset and appalled at the words that I used -- how I say the things I say. At first it really bothered me, but now I actually... I hate to use the words, 'I don't care,' but I'm not concerned. That might be cruel and cold, but that's just where I'm at right now. I have no concerns with wiping Christian's behinds or blowing their noses. If that's their problem, then they can deal with it -- not me. Those words are used every day. That's the way it is. Some people say, 'You can't possibly be a Christian and say the things that you say and feel the way that you feel.' I'm like, 'Well, go back to your world and stay there and be happy, and let me deal with mine.'

"I used to get real frustrated with letters of instruction as to how I should present myself to the public in King's X and what King's X should do. I appreciate people's comments, and thank them for caring, but it's just getting to the point where I feel like they're living my life for me. And they've taken King's X and made it something way more important than it really is. The members of King's X are no more important than anybody else in the world. A lot of these

HM #53

people just take everything that we say and do so personal. The whole mindset of much of the opposition that I've gotten is just so juvenile and so ridiculous, it's not even based on anything but a bunch of wife's tales. Aside from that, we could throw Scriptures at each other all day long about why we should or why we shouldn't do certain things; but, in the end, you could read each other's Scriptures all day long and still never come up with a conclusion."

IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU'RE GIVING THEM A CHALLENGE TO GROW UP--TO DEAL WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S BEHAVIOR.

"It is a challenge and I do it purposely. I don't do it to be mean. I do it just like you're saying, to challenge people -- 'Deal with it! Doug Pinnick? He's a Christian. He believes Jesus Christ is Who He said He was.' There are a lot of other aspects of my life, and I'm not going to snuff 'em out because of people's opinions. Now, there are some things that you can do and you can't do. You have to work with people, for sure. We have to give and take. If a mother comes into my house, a woman who's in her 50's or something, I'm not going to speak rudely to her. I'm not that rebellious, but to say what I say, I need to say it in the way I say it, and this is who I am anyway."

"I think I've said it to you before many times and to a lot of people, but if people are gonna like King's X, they're gonna have to accept King's X as normal human beings -- not saints, not as the people out to save the world, not as a spokesman, and not as a role model. We are just like everyone else. We're just doing what we can to do the best we can, and doing it the way we feel is right. And some people may disagree, but that's life. That has always been that way. People will always disagree with you. I've just decided to stop letting that weigh me down and knock those shackles off and go for what I feel like I should do. If it's right or wrong, that's my problem."

And I know, in the end, I will end up where I'm supposed to be, because I have faith and I believe."

"We've got a couple of songs on the album that are going to be very, very offensive to some people, and there will probably be an advisory sticker on the record. But I've agonized over this for years and years and years, and I'm to the point now where I'm ready to say, 'Okay, stamp it on there! Let's put the songs on there and go for it.'"

SO YOU'RE GOING TO PUT THE SONG ON THERE THAT SAYS, "GET THE BLEEP OUT OF MY WAY?"

"Yeah. We did a demo of it, and it's one of the best songs on the demo -- by our standards. It's just a rockin' groovin' tune. Jerry and Ty look at me and say, 'Doug, after we put this song on there, you know that people are going to be asking a lot of questions.' I ask 'em, 'What are you gonna say?' and they say, 'Look at Doug. He wrote it.'"

I THINK ALSO YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE PEOPLE SLAM THEIR DOOR.

"Oh. There's going to be a lot of slammed doors. The only thing that bothers me about it is there will be some young kids that won't understand, and it's really gonna hurt 'em. I've really thought about this a lot. I know the ends don't justify the means, but you can only do it so much. You can't be something else, because you're worried about how someone else is gonna take it. If Doug Pinnick can cause a kid to go to Hell or to fall away from God -- people might get offended by this -- but I don't think God is very big then, you know, when it comes to just me doing one thing. If someone falls away from God, it's got a whole lot more to do than just one little instance that I do."

"It's not that I'm justifying it. People can say that. The reason I say all this is I know Christian arguments so much. In a secular interview, I don't have to do that, but when I'm doing a Christian article, I

feel that I have to justify everything, because I know they're gonna ask those questions: 'What about this Scripture and that Scripture? What about causing your brother to stumble? There's gonna be a millstone around your neck!' I've heard the Bible a million times, like you have. We know what's up, but I have to look at the whole picture, and learn what is the right thing to do. I don't believe God expects us to have to be everything for everybody. Even though Paul was 'all things to all man,' I do believe that it's in wisdom, and it's in understanding and it's in a daily 'one foot in front of the other,' doing the right thing."

"I have a friend who's getting a divorce. This is really sad. He's only been married for about a year, maybe even longer. I just feel bad, because they're splitting up. He feels like things aren't going right for him, and things haven't gone right for him for a long time, so now he thinks God is punishing him because of this. I said, 'Dude, I think God gave you a brain to make decisions. We make decisions and whatever happens because of that decision is from the decision we made. And we have to deal with it and move on.'"

"Why are we always so afraid that God is punishing us? He's not punishing us. He's allowing us to make our decisions, make our mistakes, and learn from them, and keep going. We just keep walking and working it out and trusting in Him and working with Him. All this guilt is so immense from the church nowadays -- for me anyways. That's what I perceived growing up. Because I had so much guilt, I didn't know what to do. I only did things that I'd feel guilty if I didn't do. I had lost myself. So now I'm trying to have fun and enjoy life and smile and be happy for what I have and be thankful that I'm not worse than I am, and look forward to tomorrow. Even if my arms get chopped off, or if I die tomorrow -- that's life. You make choices. You make decisions. You make mistakes, and you have to pay for what you do, because it's life."

You go out and drink, you get in a car wreck and kill somebody... you did it. You know, God's not punishing you for it. You did it. I believe God even says that, 'What you do will come back to you.' Put the blame on yourself, forgive yourself, and move on. But rather, we wake up and go, 'Oh, I haven't done enough. I haven't done enough. Oh no, no, no!' We walk around with our head down, looking at the dust, when we should have our head in the air, up in the clouds, flying like eagles. Here I am, babbling again, like I know so much, ha, ha, ha."

ONE COULD DEBATE WITH YOU ABOUT YOUR ONE COMMENT ABOUT, "IF DOUG PINNICK CAN MAKE SOME KID GO TO HELL, GOD'S NOT BIG." ESSENTIALLY, I WOULD SAY, YOU'VE GOT A POINT THERE, BUT IT COULD BE CONSTRUED AS KIND OF A COP-OUT IF YOU TRY TO ABSOLVE YOURSELF OF RESPONSIBILITY.

"When I say something, it sounds like it's absolute. I sound like it's final, and I don't realize it, but people have called my attention to that and I try to work on it. What I'm saying is, 'I know what I said. I really believe it. But, on the other hand, I am still concerned and I still want to do the right thing. Sometimes you don't know if it's the right thing or not, but I've got to step out and I've got to make my choices and I've got to deal with my results.' I believe it's a part of living and a part of growing. If I make a mistake, I'm supposed to be forgiven. If that's wrong, then there's something wrong here. What I'm saying here is: 'I want to do the right thing.' That is always the bottom line. Sometimes the right thing for me is the wrong thing for someone else. Maybe it's the wrong thing, period. But I'm not agonizing over it anymore, because I've made so many mistakes in my life. In 44 years I've made so many mistakes and I've done so many things that have caused so much pain and so much heartache."



"People would laugh at me, because of all the good things they think King's X does and all this kind of stuff. All that's cool, but there's another Doug, who's just messed up and trying to make it like everybody else. That's another side to me, and that side, I just have to work on. I have to work on it and learn what the right thing is and step out and fall on my face and get up. If I break my nose, I'll have to heal it. If I get killed in the process, then I'm dead. But, the bottom line is: Trying to do the right thing."

I THINK THAT'S WHERE REAL WISDOM COMES IN. LIKE THESE SONGS ON THE NEXT ALBUM--IF IT ENDS UP BEING A MISTAKE, IT'S A MISTAKE!

"If it's a mistake, then we'll deal with it. And we'll know what we know. It's sad if it

backfires. Ten years from now I can look back and go, 'At least we tried it!' To me, that's what life's all about -- stepping out. What is faith? If you're gonna walk across the water, you've gotta put that step out there. If you fall under, because you didn't have faith and drown, well, you just didn't have enough faith, but God's not gonna hate you for it. You just made a mistake. You're forgiven, and He may go, 'Hey, you blew it! Come on up!'"

A LOT OF PEOPLE JUST AREN'T VERY UNDERSTANDING, THOUGH.

"Nope. They're not, and I understand that they're not very understanding. The end result will be, 'That's the way it is, because I never, ever wanted to be a Christian band or the Christian spokesman. People might say that's a cop-out, but the reason I didn't want to do it,

is because I knew all the things that I would have to go through would be -- for me -- useless. It became a game to me, and it was not real and I was phoney. How can I go back and do that? I don't want to turn up later on and have people telling stories about me like they're doing about Mike Warnke or Jimmy Swaggart or all the big people that have blown it in front of the masses. I'm trying real hard to not allow myself to be built up to that place and then the big bomb comes and I'm ridiculed. I'm going, 'This is who I am now. Deal with it now, so you don't have to hear something later and be all disappointed. Let's get it over with, so we can get on with life.' I will not live that facade anymore.

"I think about a lot of things I do. I think about what will happen in the outcome and, 'Am I ready to deal with it? Am

I ready to suffer the consequences?' I think, in a way, I'm happy that I'm at that point, because I don't feel like someone just floating around, just completely lost and has no clue of what to do with his life."

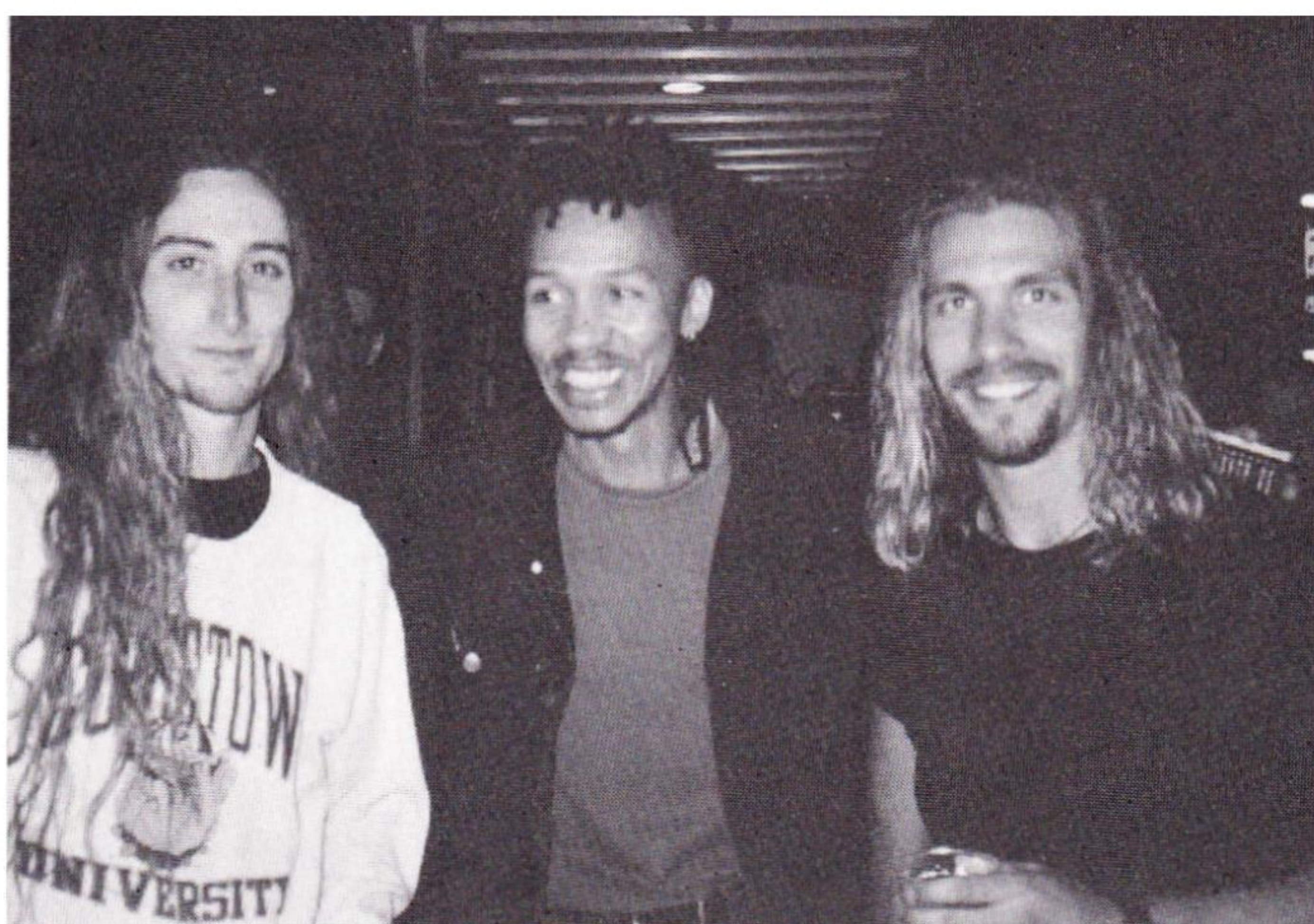
I'VE BEEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON YOUR LIFE BEFORE, WHICH IS NOT A QUESTION FOR ME--TO TELL SOMEONE ELSE WHAT SOMEONE ELSE'S LIFE IS LIKE.

"I've gotten to the point where -- and this is real cold, but, 'So what if I'm doing all those things that people say? It's my life and I'm the one who has to work it out.' I think the only things a Christian should do is: To love me unconditionally; and to pray for me, if that's what they feel they should do; and he can speak to me about what he feels that I'm doing that he disagrees with. I get letters from people, and I write them back and tell them, or explain to them or say, 'Hey, this is what I do, so scare you!' Whatever the answer is, I write 'em back. But that's important. But, when people go around discussing me or King's X or REZ Band or Steve Taylor or anybody, or Motley Crue or whatever . . . when they go around talking about them, 'As a matter of fact, I heard this, and I heard that . . . what do you think?' That's gossip! I thought that was supposed to be wrong! That's the thing that bothers me about being around Christians -- not all of them -- there's such a double standard. There's certain things that you can't do that's so vile that everyone turns their back on you, but yet they do things that are just as bad that cause people problems in their lives because of gossip and because of bad counseling.

"One time Jesus mentioned, 'They'll be with you always, but I am only with you for a short time.' The point being is: there are important things that are going on with God with the world and with people, and we are too busy in the shallowness of our own little religion. I want to get beyond the shallow things and get to see what's going on. Is it a battle? Do I need to get on the

HM #53

Doug hangin' with Chris and David of Precious Death.



forefront and really stand up and fight for something, or am I to do what I do and just befriend a few people and help 'em get through life? I don't know, but I have to find that out. I'm trying to.

"People tell me what I should and shouldn't be doing. One guy wrote me a letter, saying that we were playing and there was a kid in front of him with a Slayer cap on, watching the show. After I did 'Over My Head,' this guy said that he was very upset at me, because the kid

in front of him was looking for some answer. He could tell this kid was looking for an answer and I didn't give it to him. I wrote him back and said, 'How can you say that? How can you place that on me? How can you say you know me enough to know what I'm supposed to be saying? And how do you know that this kid didn't get everything that he needed to get?'

"The reason why I do that is to kind of weed things out, you know. Because I'm not

trying to say things to Christians. I'm trying to say things to people who have ears to listen in the only way I know how. It's important. I just don't believe kids would have heard it if I had said it any other way. I didn't say it because I felt that it was the only way they could hear it. I didn't have to say it... Maybe it wouldn't be as effective, but it's the way I feel I needed to do it. I prayed about it for a long time. Ty and Jerry are... Let me explain it this way: When I say 'Yes,' Ty says, 'No!' We went 'round and 'round about (this) for a while, but we worked it out. It got to a point to where we were all in agreement. Whatever King's X does, if we're not in agreement when it happens, either we will be in agreement and continue it, or it will stop.

"Those guys are important to me. I've been with them for 14 years and they're like my brothers. They have established their own faith and their own belief in Christ as God. They're very strong in the way they believe and what they've

been through, and they've seen me go through so much, too. They understand me. They can get behind me and say, 'Doug, I believe this is what you need to do, so go for it!' Because they understand. That's the problem: A lot of people don't understand me . . . and how can they? Best friends and family members are close to each other and they can instruct each other and help each other and be there for each other. I'm just a guy who plays music. I'll get a call from somebody from the record company or somebody's home and they're touched by it or they hate it -- one or the other. That's the dilemma, but that's still the excitement of it -- knowing that people are hearing what you have to say, when there's a lot of people that don't get that chance. Whether I have anything important to say at this point or not, what matters is I've got an outlet for all my frustrations and all fears and all my whatever that I'm dealing with. I wish everyone had an outlet."

HM

THERE IS NO
NEED TO FEAR
DEATH

Unleashed upon
the innocent

May 27, 1995

Michigan Mosh '95

1-810-773-3361
for details

The Crushing Debut of

AETURNUS

From
Blackest
Darkness

Brought to you only by

**CRANIAL
CAPTIVITY
RECORDS**

117 North Park Square, Suite 201
Marietta, Georgia 30060
404.429.9066

distributed by

gray
records dot

METAL TRACKS

Deliverance at Foundations Forum '94

Guardian is making a Spanish record, featuring cuts from every Guardian album. Should be a great outreach in a huge, mostly untapped market called "Latin America."

The nominations for this year's Dove Awards include: **Michael Sweet** and **East To West** being nominated for "New Artist of the Year;" and the following songs in the "Metal Recorded Song of the Year" category: "Bearing Gruesome Cargo" by **Tourniquet**; "Beast" by **Bride**; "Come Unto The Light" by **Whitecross**; "Drive, He Said" by **Argyle Park**; "In The Lap Of Legends" by **Tamplin**; and "Southpaw" by **Precious Death**. The nominees for "Metal Album of the Year" are: *Passafist*; *Pet The Fish* by **Wish For Eden**; *Scarecrow Messiah* by **Bride**; *Southpaw* by **Precious Death**; *The Quintessential One Bad Pig*; and *Vanishing Lessons* by **Tourniquet**.

Activities for GMA Week include several cool concerts to check out. Just a few of the acts booked are: **Barren Cross**; **Red Sea**; **Bride**; **REZ**; **Clash of Symbols**; **Love Coma**; **Three Crosses**; **Petra**; **Guardian**; **Nouveaux**; **Idle Cure**; **Rick Cua**; **Jeff Scheetz** and his band, **Sign of the Times**; **Quiet City**; and even much more! Look out for the first Heaven's Metal/Rugged Records sponsored Flag Football Game, where "finally, artists meet the industry on a level playing field." This fun football game will pit artists vs. industry on Thursday, April 27th at 11 a.m. at the Trevecca Nazarene College Intramural football field.

If you can't make it to GMA, don't worry, Eternity Broadcasting will be filming the sets by **Barren Cross**, **Bride**, **Red Sea**, **Rick Cua**, **Sign of the Times**, **Quiet City**, and all the Rugged and Salte roster sets in their entirety for later sale in the marketplace.



1995 will offer a flurry of activities for **Deliverance**, including two U.S. tours, a European tour, and Summer festival appearances. The current lineup, which includes: guitarist/vocalist **Jimmy Brown**; guitarist **Matt Winslow**; bassist **Manny Morales**; and drummer **Jeff Mason**, will open a Spring tour in April with a free show in Columbus, Ohio. Touring in support of *River Disturbance*, which was released in October on their new label, Brainstorm, Deliverance will also have a "Best Of" collection released on their former label, Intense Records, this month. Highlights of this tour will be their debut appearance at Ichthus '95 in Wilmore, Kentucky, and a live appearance in Nashville during GMA Week. In September, Deliverance will celebrate ten years of performing and recording. In appreciation for their fan response, and to celebrate a decade of live shows, Deliverance will perform a series of free concerts across the country in September. Jimmy Brown has also signed an exclusive endorsement agreement with B.C. Rich Guitars. As part of this endorsement, Deliverance will give away a free B.C. Rich guitar in a promotion to be announced shortly.

Dakoda Motor Co.

have hit the road running with its new lead singer -- **Melissa Brewer**. Prior to going on the tour, the band has been writing material for its next album, while guitarist and surfer **Peter King** has been in Aspen, Colorado filming episodes of Mt. MTV.

Circle of Dust have recently written the bumper music for MTV Sports. Several radical Christian bands have received airplay on the network's Extreme Sports shows.

Bride's Dale Thompson reports that the band's new album, *Drop*, will be more moody, like "The Doors meet Zeppelin. There will be more acoustic sounds throughout the record, but this will not be an unplugged record. We started to call the record *Ding, Dang, Dung*, but the record company disapproved. We will also be shooting a video to accompany the record." Dale also announces that his next solo record, called *Dale Thompson And The Religious Overtones*, will be out on Rugged some time this year. "It is a mixture of blues and rock and is not comparable to *Speak Into The Machine*," Dale promises.

Slamcat is presently holding auditions for a new bass player with back-up vocal abilities. After filling in their vacant bass slot, El Gato de Slam will begin recording new material

and commence a West Coast tour in June. Slamcat's address is: PO Box 14021, Tulsa OK 74159-4021. Congrats go out to **Midnight Hour's Troy** and wife **Stephanie**, who gave birth to "a new 8 lb. 6

oz. bass player named **Nicholas**. The band's *Piercing The Darkness* album seems to be doing well in Japan and Europe.

Greg Strange, who heads up Narrowpath Records (Jesus Freaks), recently released another solo album, which is dedicated to Mark Ellner. "I first met Mark in 1988," states Greg. "At the time, Mark was a teenager who had come up to pray together after the concert. We went to Denny's that night and hung out. I spoke with him again in 1990 at the Cornerstone Festival. On both occasions, it was encouraging to hear his enthusiasm for Jesus Christ. Later that year, Mark joined the armed services. Unfortunately, in May of '94, Mark was killed when his helicopter was shot down in Saudi Arabia. What makes this especially tragic is that the helicopter was mistakenly fired upon by our own people. Please keep John's family in your prayers and be encouraged that there is victory in Jesus."

Begotten, a heavy metal band from Charleston, West Virginia, has won the "Rock 105 Battle of the Bands." They received \$1,000, studio time, and the sending of their demo to a major record company. "There were only two Christian bands in this contest,"

TAMPLIN

IN THE WITNESS BOX

**The follow-up to last year's Dove Award
winning Metal Album of the Year from
Christian Rock/Metal Trailblazer, Tamplin.**



**Includes the Hit Radio Release,
"Death By Inches."**

Produced and Engineered by Ken Tamplin.

**Available now wherever great
Christian Rock and Metal is sold!**

Visit Benson's World Wide Web Site at <http://netcentral.net/benson/>



band manager Melissa Fultz, "and they had to play 'out of their territory.' Other band members, which claimed to be satanic, would come up to them and say, 'We really aren't bad; it's just an image.' Talk about conviction!" Be looking for the band's merchandise in the next couple of months.

R.E.X. has signed San Antonio rockers **Love Coma**. Look for their next album in August. Love Coma had the opportunity recently to open for Warrant, believe it or not.

Some of you may have heard of the band from Boston that features the little brothers of Nuno Bettencourt and Gary Cherone of Extreme. The band is called **Flesh** and they have a great sound of their own (although a few cuts on their debut album on Colorblind Records sound like Extreme outtakes). Although going after a mainstream angle, the band makes no bones about its "religious upbringing." When asked if they were afraid of being pegged as "being religious," they had this to say: "I'm not afraid anymore," answers guitarist Markus Cherone. "We're a band. I don't tell these three guys to go to church. Being a Christian doesn't mean automatically being a saint. But I just don't like being pegged at all." The band's use of profanity in its songs will probably initially keep the band from "getting pegged," but it will also turn off a lot of believers from enjoying their music. The band heads out on tour with Extreme soon.

PFR and **Phil Keaggy** teamed up with producer Jimmie Lee Sloas to record "We Can Work It Out" for Liberty Records' *Come Together -- America Salutes The Beatles*. Other artists included on the tribute album include: Huey Lewis, Randy Travis, Kris Kristofferson, Tanya Tucker, and Chet Atkins, among others.

MEGA & MLC International announce that the two European tours they did with **Tamplin** were very successful, except for the fact that \$20,000 worth of equipment was stolen. The positive side included sell-

ing out of merchandise on the first few days of the tour, and shooting two videos for the *Tamplin* album and one for the song "Feed Me" for the *In The Witness Box* album.

The MEGA sponsored **Mortification** tour went very well. The band's mainstream label, Nuclear Blast, said, "This was the most successful tour ever for a Nuclear Blast band." Mortification appeared at a big



Ken Tamplin

festival alongside Sick of it All, Entombed and Napalm Death, where they sold three times as much merchandise than those bands. *Blood World* is slated for an early Spring release in Europe and the band is scheduled for another European tour in the summer.

MEGA is looking for more Christian bands to work with in Europe. Interested professional bands may fax MEGA at: 011-45-74-83-0666.

Fleming & John recently had one of their concerts broadcast live over the radio in Nashville. Their debut album will be made available on limited edition vinyl with a special songbook. The first single, "I'm Not Afraid," will be accompanied by a video. **Steve Taylor** and **Ben Pearson** are scheduled to produce. The band has been garnering critical acclaim around Nashville ever since its performance at the 1991 Nashville Entertainment Association's Extravaganza, which netted them a publishing deal with EMI Publishing.

Decision-D's new record, *The Last Prostitute*, will release on the new Bark Horse Records label late this month. Following this release will be the comeback of **Ton Van Keeken** with some bluesy rock 'n' roll in September.

Doxology announces the arrival of a new rhythm guitarist in **Phil Searle**.

Edan Productions is having some kind of wing-ding in the Sonic Temple (home of Wonderland) on May 20th. Check out this lineup: **Tourniquet**; **Circle of Dust**; **Six Feet Deep**; **The Blamed**; and **Firescape**. For more info, call (708) 888-8670.

After finishing up *In The Witness Box*, Ken Tamplin recorded a jingle for the Rush Limbaugh show. Spoofing Queen's "We Will Rock You," Ken mimicked with "We Will Rush You." He also did a new Ford Explorer commercial for



Fleming & John

Photo: Norman Jean Roy

the Japanese market, singing, "It's my Ford."

The Kry recently taped an acoustic concert video on the set of CCM-TV. Accompanying the band was a 7-person choir, which included **Paul Q-Pek** of **One Bad Pig** fame. The video will be released with a soundtrack taken from the video and packaged together in a special presentation. Shortly after this taping, The Kry went to Florida to participate in a Spring Break outreach that normally draws up to 5,000 people every year.

Paul Q-Pek, by the way, is re-embarking on the solo career he left behind when the Pig took off. Don't expect anything near One Bad Pig's sound. Instead, expect a sound and performance akin to Peter Gabriel.

Holy Soldier have returned to the studio with producer **David Zaffiro** to record their highly anticipated third album, to be released later this year. This is the first album that features the vocals of **Eric Wayne**. Although the band hadn't recorded anything lately, they have maintained a solid line-up for the past two years, and have been steadily writing new material. The band recently performed very successful shows in Germany and Mexico, as well as selected U.S. dates.

Some new titles to look for are: *Drain* by **Some-time Sunday**; *Strip Cycle* by **Michael Knott**; *Pick It Up* by **Hokus Pick**; *Helpless Amongst Friends #2*; *Happy Hour* by **Dead Artist Syndrome**; *At Home* by **The Strawmen**; *Everything Was Beautiful & Nothing Hurt* by **Breakfast With Amy**; and *You're Soaking In It* by **This Train**.

Cry Mercy are set to go in the studio in April. Expect a summer release. The band has a new address: PO Box 4101, Parranatta 2145, S. Wales, Australia.

Other Rowe Productions releases this year include new albums by: **Metanoia**, who records this month; **Embodiment**, recording in June; and **Ethereal Scourge**, who should come out in October.

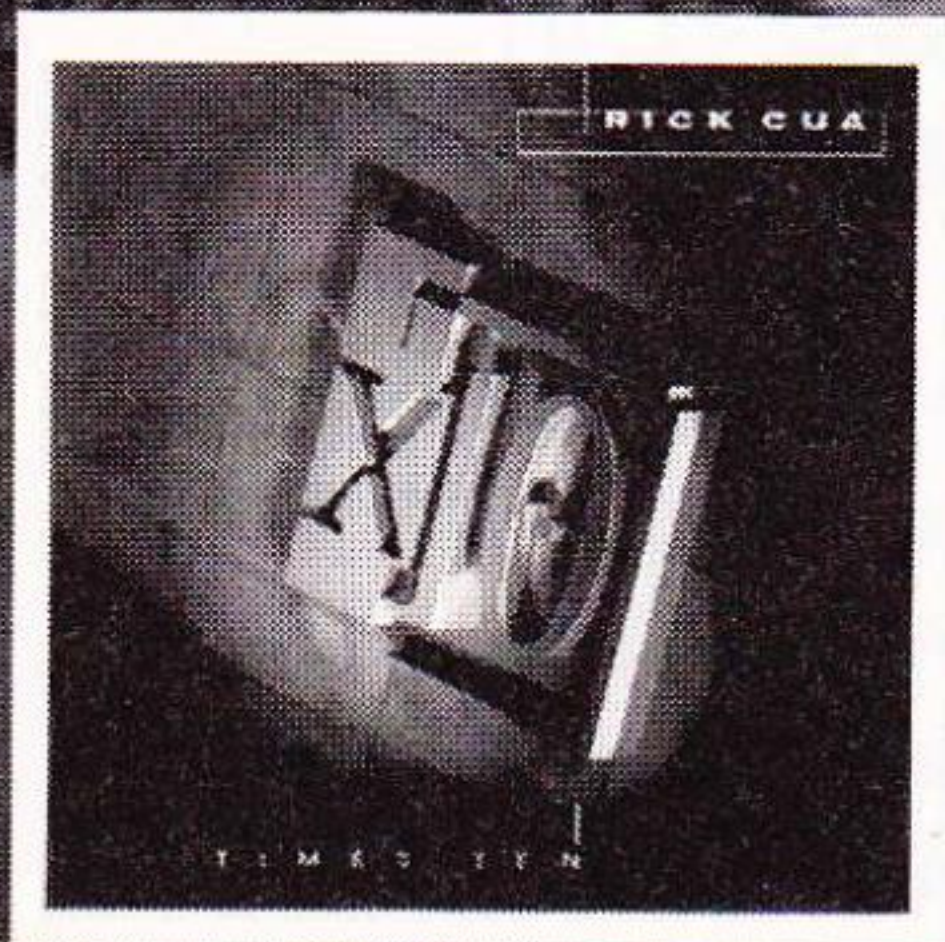
Correction, correction: **David Brown** is the vocalist for **Apostle**, not guitarist **Matt Harding** as reported in HM #52.

Frank's Enemy is starting rehearsals on **Julio Rey's** 12-minute opus, "The Human Reich." First heard on the *Final Absolution* demo, the song encompasses all of the band's styles. "I realize this kind of thing may be somewhat out of fashion, which makes it an even bigger motivation for me," says Rey.

Saturday, June 24

HM #53

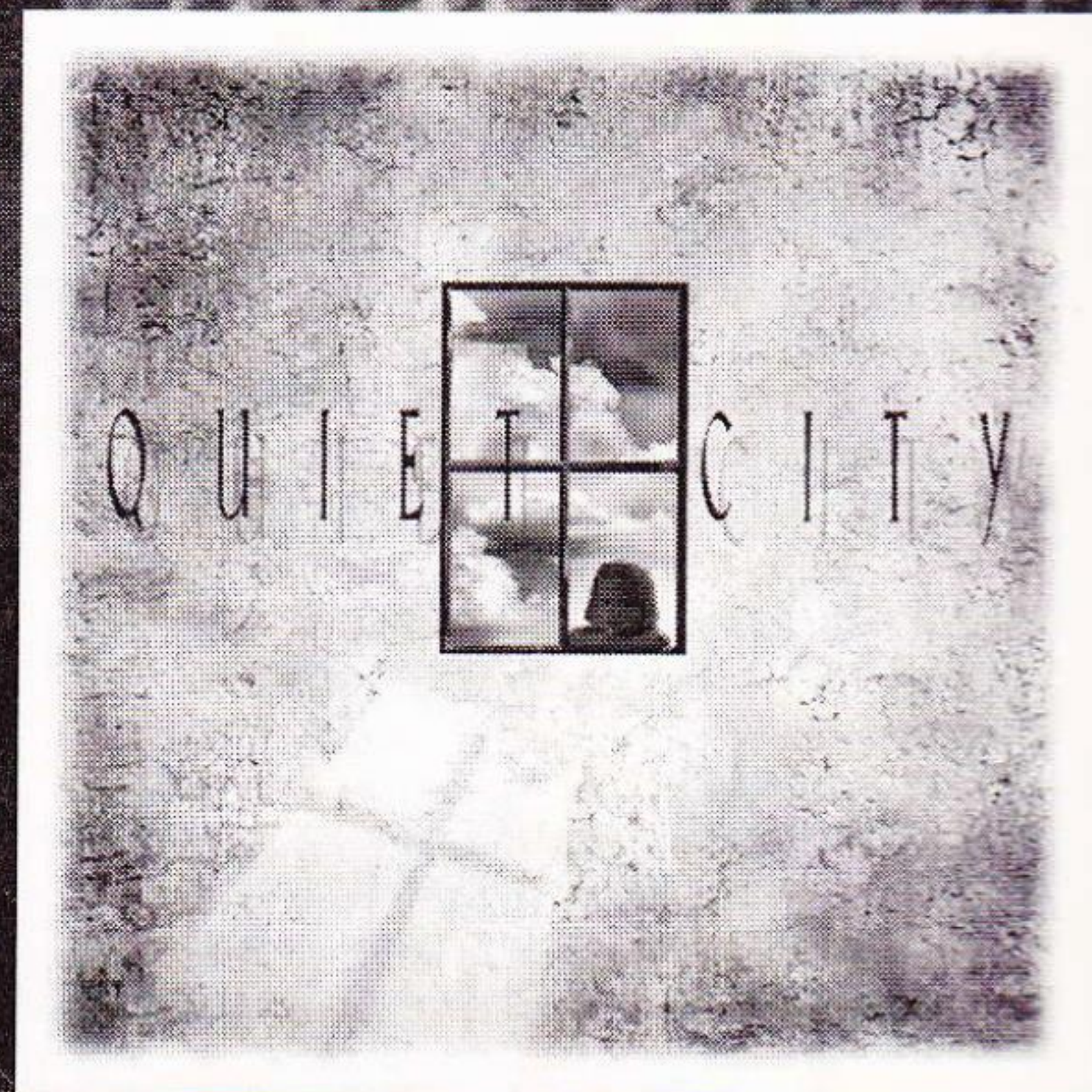
QUIET CITY



IN APRIL:
Rick Cua's

New album *Times Ten*.

Get a grip on it...
You won't let go.



**Modern Rock.
Sophisticated Alternative.**

*If you enjoy the sounds of U2, Peter Gabriel,
Simple Minds, or Seal, you'll love Quiet City.*



IN JULY:
Jeff Scheetz

And his band **SIGN OF THE TIMES**.

*The same huge guitars from **Dig** and
Woodpecker Stomp. Now with huge new vocals.*

SALT INC.
MUSIC

© 1995 Salt Incorporated Music, Inc.

See RICK CUA, QUIET CITY and JEFF SCHEETZ Perform live at G.M.A.
on Tuesday, April 25th, 9:30pm at 328 Performance Hall, Nashville, TN.

Distributed by BENSON MUSIC DISTRIBUTION.
800-688-2505

marks the day for the second "God's Pleasure Open Air Festival." It will take place on the square belonging to the Veemarkthallen in Utrecht, The Netherlands. Slated for the show are: **Darrell Mansfield**; **The Prayer Chain**; Van Keeken; **T-bone**; and Decision-D. For more info, call 011-31-30-966981.

"Behold The Lamb Of God," written and recorded by **Glenn Kaiser** for the *All My Days* album, has just been accepted into the new Covenant Hymnal due out in 1996.

Crashdog has a new vocalist! **Andrew Mandell**, who formerly handled guitars, is taking over the lead vocal slot. **Jason Burt** will step in as the new guitarist.

Ft. Lauderdale-based **Nonpoint Factor** is finishing up their debut album, *Anger Through An Art Form* at Gled Studios with producers Eric Hoffman and Chris Rutherford (Anthrax, Saigon Kick, Arsenio Hall). *Anger...* will be released in conjunction with a 9-week tour.

Producers Eric Hoffman and Chris Rutherford are also busy finishing up the new **Royal Anguish** album -- *The Chronicles of Autumn Sorrow*. Other releases on Conquest Music International include the cassette EP from New Jersey doom band **Breath of Life** (ex-Pale Horse). For more info, write: Conquest, 5957 SW 43rd St, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33314; or call (305) 587-7971.

The bassist who played on the **Xavier Rossey** tape (reviewed in HM #52) is in jail awaiting trial. There have been false witnesses from his wife, saying that he molested their three year-old daughter. This woman left him a year and a half ago and she took the two children with her and has since caused problems on the weekends he was scheduled to see his kids. She has been casting aspersions on him and decided a few months ago to sue him for child abuse. "We know," says Xavier, "and God knows, that he is totally innocent. This woman is insane and members of her family are into occultism, and she has made her definite choice. Psycholo-

gists are on Marc's side. The worse part is that she is using her daughter for this. She makes her say it's all true. She is destroying her children's life for her personal vengeance and Marc risks around 20 years of incarceration.

"What's more," continues Xavier, "it is possible that the child has really been molested by someone from this woman's surrounding, or that she made her view pornographic tapes, making her believe that Marc did the same to her. Anyway, Marc is strong. His trust in God's justice and his faith are amazing. He is a source of encouragement for his family and friends, and he has the possibility to witness in this prison. We don't know what God's plans are concerning this, but we believe that something big may happen and that God will use this for His glory. We would like you to join us in prayer for Marc and his children, who are under demonic influence. We know there's a spiritual battle to be fought."

Since Xavier's first report, Marc has been released, and the police are starting a more serious investigation. The trial date has not been set yet. Marc had a cellmate in jail who was a real child molester. He had the opportunity to witness and they prayed together. Since Marc left, this man is beginning to discover God.

Pastor Fred Z., who you have seen pen many a concert review from his neck of the woods, has started a "Southern-fried rock and blues" band called **Broken Vessel**. For more info, write: PO Box 1106, Marysville CA 95901.

Z Music Television has launched a viewer information service providing immediate responses to viewer inquiries. Through the service, viewers can get specific information about a particular artist, fan club details, or general information on how to get Z Music Television on local cable systems. The service can be reached by calling (615) 883-7000 or writing: Z Music Television Information Services, 2806 Opryland Dr, Nashville TN



37214.

Those who read the **Bloodbath** review in HM #52 and wondered how much their *Fattened & Slaughtered* tape was will now know: It's \$5. Send to: PO Box 3911, Mililani HI 96789.

The **Deven Berryhill Band** (DBB) are touring 14 cities on the West Coast. For more info, call Charles or Pam at (619) 571-1645.

Bones of Adam are releasing a new 6-song CD called *Nickels Wurfa Neckbones*.

Shawn Pelata, former singer for North Carolina-based **Oracle**, (reviewed in HM #40) has joined **Trampled Underfoot**. The music is described as a fairly progressive, very melodic blend of metal. "Try to imagine Iron Maiden and Mercyful Fate merging with vintage Kansas" (!?) states Shawn. The band hits the studio on May 14th to record a full-length CD. For further info, write: Shawn Pelata, 2104 Charles St, Jamestown NC 27282.

Living Sacrifice is scheduling a tour this summer and plans to record their fourth album immediately after the tour. Look for a Fall release.

Circle of Dust is planning on a new video for "Onenemey," which will be shot this month and produced/directed by Ben Pearson (Steve Taylor, Chagall Guevara).

World Wide Pictures, the movie-making side of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (Time To Run, The Prodigal), have produced a new movie called *Power Play*. Set in Vancouver, British Columbia, the movie depicts a brutal "win at all costs" lawyer, Robbie Steele, going after retired hockey star

Cody Harris to secure a pro hockey franchise purchase. In the process of recruiting this newly born-again hero, Robbie finds herself thinking about God in a different way. We at Heaven's Metal had a chance to preview the movie and, we must say, it's got a good story, plenty of humorous moments, and a happy ending, but it sure doesn't last as long (only 60 minutes) as most movies, nor does it have many innovative or breathtaking camera shots like the big-time Hollywood productions. I personally get moved by good dramatization of someone realizing the grace of God, but I think this film will fall short of impressing the world at large.

Star Song has recently signed up the production team called FLXIBLE, which is made up of **Lynn Nichols**, **Dave Perkins**, and **Robert Stewart**. The first project produced and developed by FLXIBLE was **The Walter Egenes**.

Tom Denlinger of **Sardonyx** and his wife, **Ruth**, are both endeavoring to travel to Alaska to serve as short-term missionaries. Tom will mostly be using carpenter skills to help build and maintain the mission base's housing and buildings. Please pray for Tom and Ruth, as they set out to make this trip the first part of this month. For those that would like to help, you may send donations to: Lancaster Christian & Missionary Alliance Church, 210 Pitney Road, Lancaster PA 17601.

David Pierce and **No Longer Music** are planning an evangelistic tour in Bombay, India this month. The concerts will be held in football stadiums and other large venues. "We will focus especially on those alien-

ated from the church and caught up in the popular counter culture that is evident around the world today," states David. "The Indian Christians in Bombay believe we will see at least 50,000 of these lost young people at our evangelistic concerts. We will be working with an Indian pastor, Brother Joseph, of New Life Church in Bombay. Brother Joseph's churches in Bombay have 25,000 members spread throughout the city, which are divided into 800 groups. Everyone who responds to Christ at our concerts will be followed up with a personal visit by a local church member. Those who would like to help with this effort can send donations to: Steiger International, 3044 Chicago Ave South, PO Box 7263, Minneapolis MN 55407.

Todd Davis of **Final Judgement** thought the band was over forever when he felt God telling him to leave it last year. Since then, Todd has grown his hair out (after shaving it), put on a suit and tie, got back into church on a full-time basis, got a great job, went back to school, got involved in Promise Keepers, and basically started to repair what he had destroyed. Now that he's back on focus, Todd and Derek (drummer) feel God leading them to put the band back in gear, albeit low gear. For more info, write: PO Box 1604, Lilburn GA 30226-1604.

The **Christian Musician's Institute Newsletter** endeavors to "Equip the Saints" with a quarterly newsletter. Topics include: How to raise your musicianship; new music gear/product reviews; interviews with popular musicians (either secular or Christian fields); upcoming C.M.I. seminars; playing in your church band; industry trends; and tour information. It's only \$12 per year (Canada \$15). Send checks to: C.M.I. Newsletter, 11721 Meridian Ave. East, Suite #275, Puyallup, WA 98373.

The line-up for "Invasion '95" includes **Lovewar**, **Heroez**, and a possible **Daniel Band** reunion. For more info, call (814) 781-3140.

"Music In The Gorge"

HM #53

is the name of a huge festival being put on by **Mikee** from **Sometime Sunday**. It will be held on Labor Day Weekend (September 1-4). Located 40 miles east of Portland, Oregon in Stevenson, Washington. Over 60 bands will be there!!! Included on the bill are: **Starflyer 59**; The Prayer Chain; **Focused**; **Havalina Rail Co.**; **Poor Old Lu**; **MxPx**; **Blenderhead**; **Don't Know**; **Sometime Sunday**; **Plank Eye**; **Gramma Train**; **Black Eyed Sceva**; **My Brother's Mother**; and more! Tickets are \$22.50, and camping is free. For more info, call (503) 254-6458.

R.E.X. has moved its offices to a larger location in Brentwood, Tennessee. Their new address is: 7100 Executive Center Drive, Suite 110, Brentwood TN 37027.

Ignite's CD is available in the U.S. through Reign Productions. You can write: Reign Prod, 1612 Villas East #102, Denton TX 76201; or call (817) 320-5447. Ignite has a new address for themselves as well: 47/81 Bath Rd, Kirrawee 2232, N.S.W. Australia.

Heaven's Eyes is a new graphic design business in Minnesota that specializes in artwork for cassette and CD j-cards. They can be reached at (612) 894-6622.

Truth Clothing has sponsored **The Newsboys' Going Public** tour. They will be creating specially-designed hats, flannel shirts and t-shirts for the tour. Prime Ticket, a top-rated sports network, will also be using Newsboys music as the accompanying soundtrack for its show, "GearHeads." The host of the show and several pro bike riders will also be wearing Truth Clothing throughout the program. America West Airlines will be airing *Extreme Attitude*, the intense skiing movie produced by Truth's Eric Hannah, and features Newsboys music. The film will be part of the airline's in-flight program, and will be aired over 1,000 times!

And, last but not least, **Water Stain** has a new correspondence address: PO Box 120663, New Brighton, MN 55112.

HM

Modern Rock for Modern Times

Interactive.

Internet.

Nothing but net.

Multipurpose.

Multimedia.

Multinational.

Hardware.

Software.

What to wear?

White guys with dreadlocks.

Houses with padlocks.

Big bucks in cheap stocks.

C-Span.

D tox.

E mail.

Generation X.

Malcom X.

Perplexed?

Microsoft.

Micro-management.

Mini-malls.

Minivans.

Cel phones.

Cellulite.

Self esteem.

Anything "of steel".

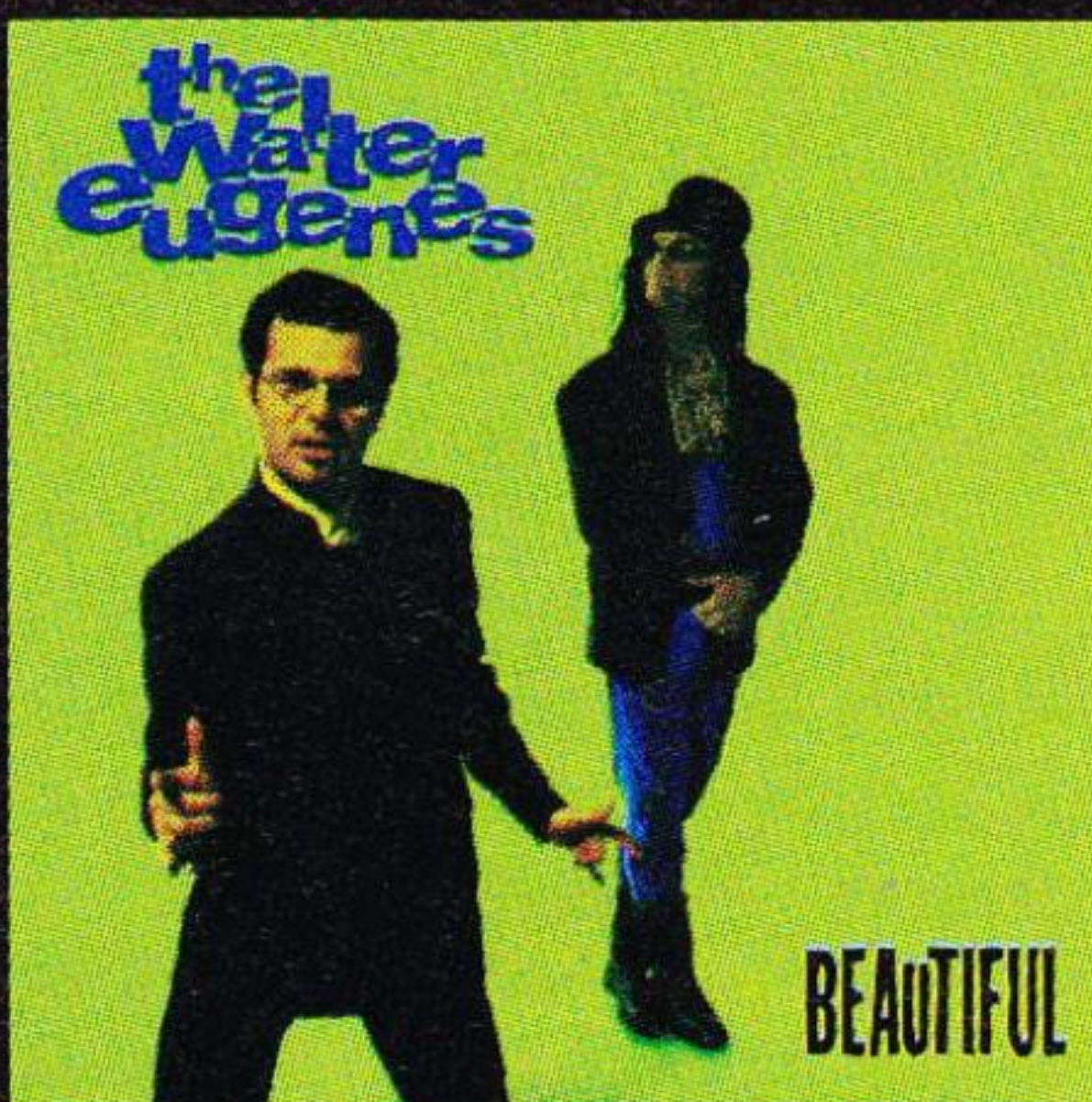
Everything's a steal.

Rush. Newt. Bill & Hill.

Singers with symbols for names.

Rock stars with crooners.

Cars that say "HI".



**The
Walter Eugenes
"Beautiful"**
A Modern Rock Album.

Call (614) 492-0777
and visit The Wonderful World Of
The Walter Eugenes.
Flexible Management
(615) 373-3743


StarSong 41
COMMUNICATIONS

WHO ARE YOU?

Reader's Survey Results

Some of you may remember that several issues ago we printed a survey and asked for your response. Well, we got it! It took us some time, but we have finally sorted through everything and here is what we found:

Who are the faithful Heaven's Metal readers? **36%** of you are in those trying **teenage** years (those of us with the battle scars will be praying for you). **47.5%** of our readers are in their **twenties** and **16.5%** of ya'll (we are in Texas) have passed that **30** mile marker (including our fearless editor). **85%** of you are **male**. Amazing, that makes more than a 1 girl for every 5 guys. Sorry guys, it is not in your favor. **80%** of you were subscribers. The rest faithfully purchase their issue at a store.

I must say our readers must think highly of us: **73.5%** of you all said you **pass along your magazine** when you are done with it. More than **half** of those are then **passed on a second time!** Many of you said at least an additional 3-5 people read your copy. Boy! I would hate to see what it looks like when you finally get it back. Which reminds me, **15%** of you said your magazine sometimes had arrived **torn up**. You spoke and we listened. While we are not ready to take on the enormous expense of polybags, we changed the cover to a thicker, more durable paper. You should have noticed this change with issue #51.

Fashion Central. **85%** of those responding had **bought Christian clothing** in the past year. **22%** of you bought clothes through **mail order**, **31% at a store**, and **28% at concerts**. **7%** of you stated other (That must be the new space station I heard TBN was building).

Musical Talent? Nearly **40%** of those surveyed stated they **play the guitar**. That explains all the requests we get for tablature (We thought maybe it was just two or three of you, writing in over and over trying to disguise your handwriting). **88%** of all those surveyed play some kind of **musical instrument**. Wow! You sure are a talented bunch! Here is the breakdown: **17% piano/keys**, **18% bass**, **20% drums**, **31% vocals**, **8% horn**, and **12% other** (and a bunch of you are multi-dimensional -- doing more than one at a time).

Musical Tastes. Nearly **75%** of you said you **listened to mainstream** music at least occasionally. For you, we assure you we are actively seeking all big name bands for "What So

HEAVEN'S METAL HOTLINE



**GET THE NEWS FIRST
GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED
HEAR NEW MUSIC NOW
UPDATED EVERY MONDAY**

**SEND US YOUR QUESTIONS & WE'LL PICK TWO OF 'EM
TO ANSWER EVERY WEEK**

1-900-990-0085 EXT. 107

\$2 PER MINUTE WITH 5 MINUTE MAX LIMIT

AVERAGE LENGTH OF CALL -- 4 MINUTES

AVERAGE COST OF CALL -- \$8

MAXIMUM COST -- \$10

HEAVEN'S METAL, AUSTIN, TX / UNDER 18 GET YOUR PARENT'S PERMISSION / TOUCH-TONE REQUIRED

And So Sez." It takes a lot of time and patience, and still there are some that remain out of our reach. Keep looking and praying. Don't look now, but . . . more than **3/4** of you said you **listen to things other than hard music** -- including, but not limited to rap and praise & worship.

Higher Education? **60%** of those 19 and under say you will **consider attending a Christian college**. Because of this, we will continue to seek information about Christian institutions. Keep your eyes out.

Big Spenders. **40%** of you make **more than 20 music purchases per year**. Another **50%** said they make at least **6-20 purchases**. **80%** of those purchases were in **Christian bookstores**, **13.5%** through mail order, **5%** in record stores.

Decisions, Decisions. **22.5%** of you base purchases on radio, **53%** on demos, **2%** on HM hotline, **20%** on a friend, **67%** on reviews and **40%** are the brave souls who take a shot in the dark. **96%** of you had interest in books (there are those who think we do nothing but sit around and bang our heads). **Favorites:** **47%** fiction, **22%** spiritual life/self help, **12%** devotional, **23.5%** bible commentary/theology. Book reviews are now a permanent part of HM.

46% of you said your Christian bookstore does not carry Heaven's Metal. Why are you still here reading? You should already be on your way there with your issue in hand.

Michelle Deneen

"Here's a melodic rock EP with the strong voice of Michelle, the sonics are top notch. Fans of Margaret Becker's first album should dig this. Very Cool."

- Doug Van Pelt - "Heaven's Metal"

"A mainstream sound with great appeal. I was impressed. Production is excellent and the players accomplished. Look for Michelle to do something outstanding in the future!"

- Janice Sweet - "Solid Rock Review" and "Stryper"

"The EP is top notch. It totally blew me away! This is one lady that rocks. One of the best I have heard."

- Editor - "Narrow Gate Magazine"

"A very talented gifted lady, who has inspired and blessed me. Awesome, very cool."

- "Shava" - "Eternal Reign Magazine"

"Great music, great voice, lots of confidence"

- Jamie Rowe - "Guardian"

"Awesome voice and talent. This is the best project I have ever accomplished."

- Michael S. Tyrrell - "Mylon and Broken Heart" and "Doro Pesch"

"Many songs of the EP have been #1 on the charts."

- "Quoted" - "Various Radio Stations"

GLASS WALLS

Produced by Michael S. Tyrrell • Michael Demus

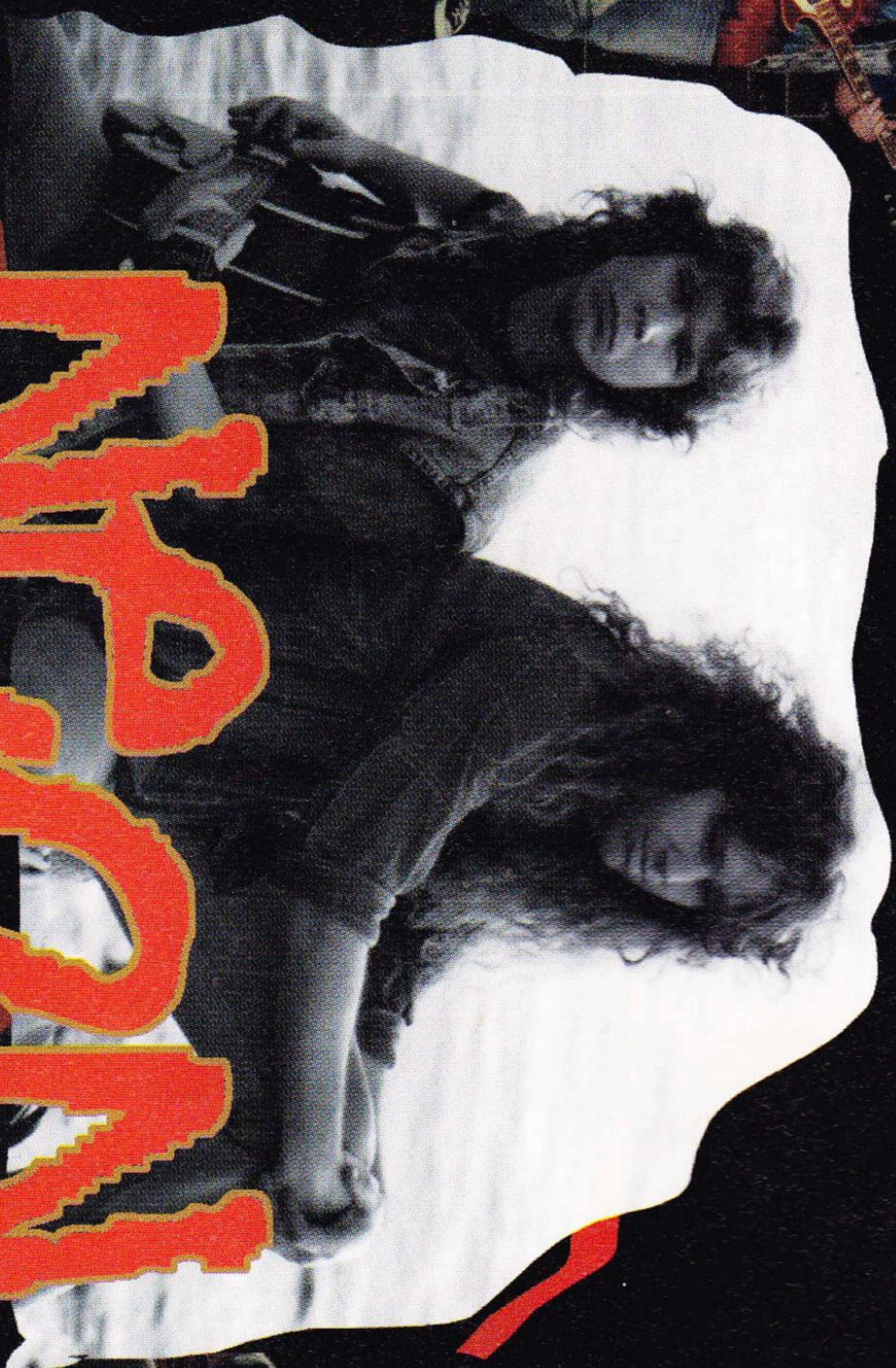
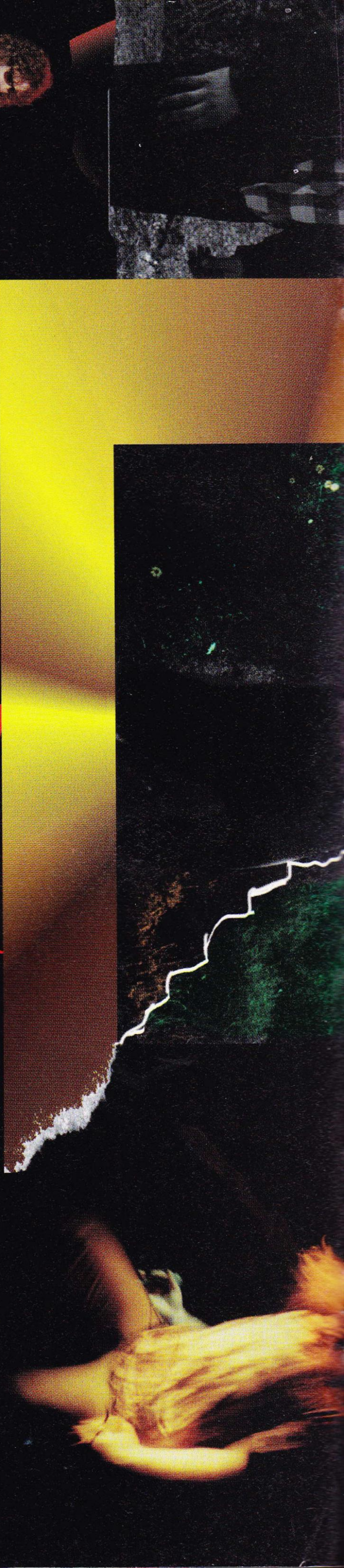
EP • CD \$7.00 • Cassette \$5.00 • Photo \$2.00 • Devotional Book "Breaking Down the Walls" \$5.00

Please add \$1.00 for shipping and handling "or write"

Michelle Deneen c/o Warrior Music and Publication

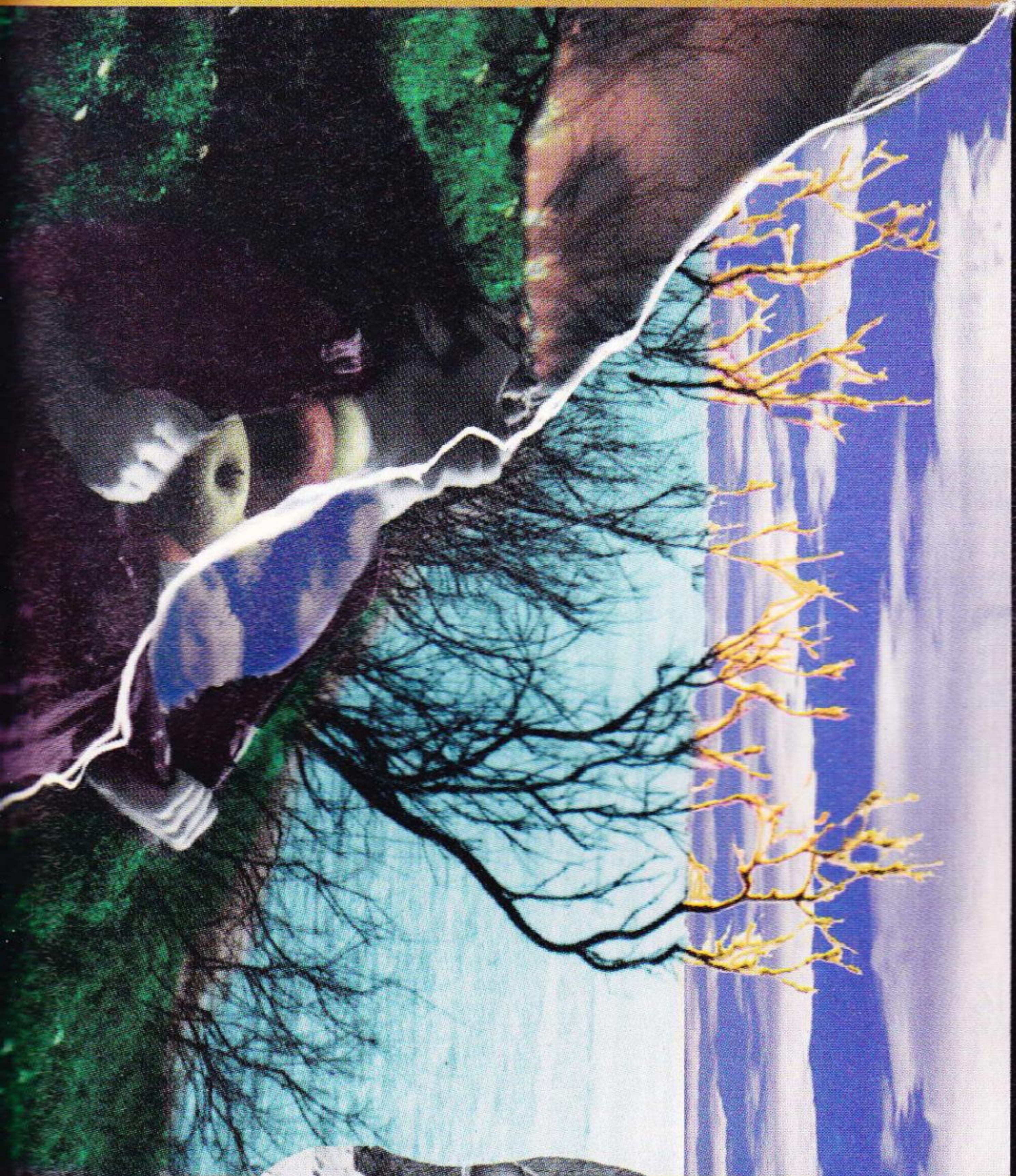
P. O. Box 191058 • Mobile, AL 36619 • Please allow 2-3 weeks

For Merchandise • Booking • Radio Service Phone or FAX 334-865-6491 or 615-731-5329



Neo Neo

HEAVENS
YOUR HARD MUSIC AUTHORITY





torman maxt

JUST TALKING ABOUT THE UNIVERSE . . . SO FAR

riders of the cosmic circuit

movie screens
shirley's dreams
esoterically obscene
inner truth
new age view
media endorses you

hypnotic trance is calling
to find relative truth
no absolute which to
guide a misled,
well meaning view

riders lead them away
riders lead them astray
and they will find...
though they try they'll
never be a god

"hey rider where is your
power, you've abandoned

your soul...you make yourself
out to be a god, but you're
going to die... and you will die
like a mere man"

finding the reason for the
man who claims he's god
why is he pleasing to the
hungry ears of the crowd
a reincarnate soul he claims
that he has found
oh maharishi, your own self
a king you have crowned

mystic scenes
astral dreams
basically occultic themes

inner truth
cryptic view
as the devil laughs at you

relative truth tells a man
he is right with any view
how will you then judge a hitler
you've got no absolute

riders lead them away
riders lead them astray
and they will find...
though you mean well
shirley you're not god

now is the season for
the man who claims he's god
rejects that evil is a real
thing to overcome
there is no right or wrong
they let each man decide
oh charlie manson what you
did they say is alright

This song deals with the New Age Movement and its Eastern mystic religious roots. The term "rider" is used to describe any person who makes the claim that he himself is God. This song was written to illustrate some of the ramifications of this belief and how the Bible deals with these false claims.

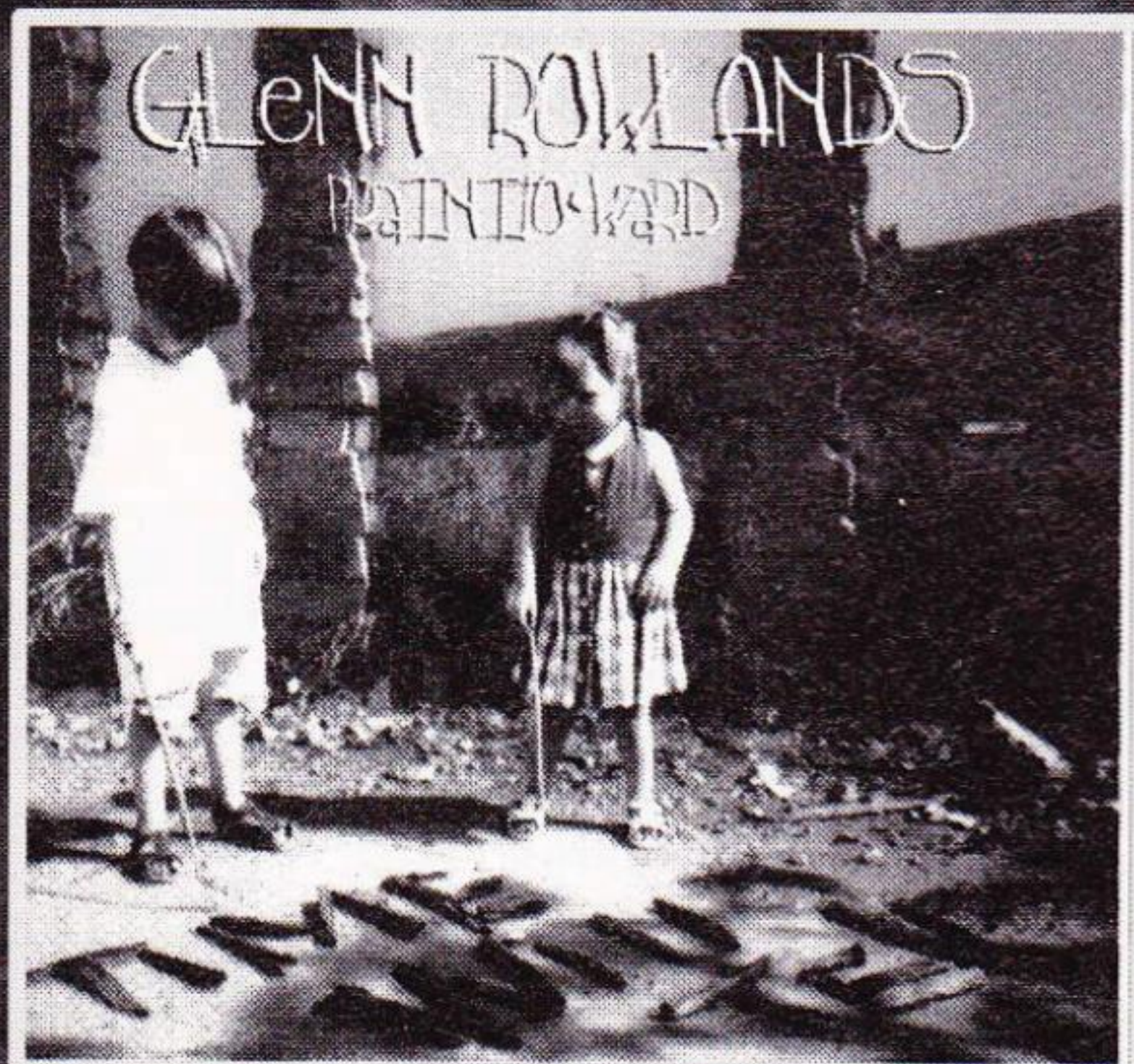


Lyrics taken from Torman Maxt's album:
"Just Talking About the Universe...So Far"
For further lyrical explanations, bookings or
any other information about the band write to:

Mars Hill Records
P.O. Box 50324
Irvine, CA 92619
(714) 852-6100
FAX (714) 559-5487



GLENN ROWLANDS



FEATURING THE HITS:

TIME WILL TELL
REIGN ON ME
JESUS WEPT

AVAILABLE AT BEREAN AND OTHER FINE CHRISTIAN OUTLETS

FLOPPY FISH RECORDS
&
DISTRIBUTION
(909) 885-3488

Rock/Metal Radio & Sales Charts

Radio

1	"Angry Son"	14	"Rattle Your Cage"
	Six Feet Deep		Barren Cross
2	"Self"	15	"Token"
	Sometime Sunday		Mend
3	"Stench"	16	"Dust To Dust"
	Everdown		Red Sea
4	"You Can't Break Me"	17	"All Hail The Power"
	Precious Death		P.K. Mitchell
5	"Realize"	18	"Reactionary Fear"
	MxPx		Crashdog
6	"Power of God"	19	"Prisoner"
	The Crucified		King James
7	"Weakness"	20	"Injudicial"
	The Blamed		Paramaecium
8	"Forward"	21	"Place"
	Focused		Bride
9	"Who's To Blame"	22	"Holy Psychotherapy"
	Unashamed		David Benson
10	"Breathing Murder"	23	"Blue Skies"
	Living Sacrifice		Velocipede
11	"Internalize"	24	"Mourning By Night"
	Blenderhead		Jesus Freaks
12	"Epignosis"	25	"Welcome to Dystopia"
	Chatterbox		Under Midnight
13	"Green"		This is a reprint of the March
	Wish For Eden	27	"Loud" chart courtesy <u>The Pure Rock</u>
			<u>Report</u> , a long-time radio/industry "tip sheet"

that covers industry news and radio charts every three weeks. For subscription info, write: Living Edge Communications, PO Box 27093, Columbus, OH 43227.

Sales

that covers industry news and radio charts every three weeks. For subscription info, write: Living Edge Communications, PO Box 27093, Columbus, OH 43227.

Sales

1	<i>Sin</i>	11	<i>Great Lengths</i>
	POOR OLD LU		PFR
2	<i>Sicken</i>	12	<i>You</i>
	EVERDOWN		THE KRY
3	<i>Mission of Mercy</i>	13	<i>Vanishing Lessons</i>
	YONDERBOY		TOURNIQUET
4	<i>Wake</i>	14	<i>I'll Find You There</i>
	MORTAL		THE KRY
5	<i>Frail</i>	15	<i>Alternative Worship</i>
	THE BLAMED		VARIOUS ARTISTS
6	<i>If You Must</i>	16	<i>Stone</i>
	PRECIOUS DEATH		SOMETIME SUNDAY
7	<i>Don't Censor Me</i>	17	<i>King James</i>
	AUDIO ADRENALINE		KING JAMES
8	<i>Going Public</i>	18	<i>It's About Time</i>
	NEWSBOYS		GREG CHAISSON
9	<i>Shake</i>	19	<i>Safe As Milk</i>
	JOHN SCHLITT		MICHAEL ROE
10	<i>Polkinatcha</i>	20	<i>Blue Belly Sky</i>
	MXPX		THE WAITING

Reporting stores this report are: Triune Books, Cincinnati, OH; True Tunes, Wheaton, IL; New Life Books & Gifts, Lynchburg, VA; The Living Vine, Columbia, SC; Theophilus Bible Store, Bellaire, TX; and Loaves & Fishes, Vista, CA.

Reporting stores this report are: Triune Books, Cincinnati, OH; True Tunes, Wheaton, IL; New Life Books & Gifts, Lynchburg, VA; The Living Vine, Columbia, SC; Theophilus Bible Store, Bellaire, TX; and Loaves & Fishes, Vista, CA.

LATE NIGHT MACNESS
During GMA Week at The Gannery
 April 23, 24, 25, & 26

SUNDAY:
 10 pm Walter Eugenes
 11 pm Big Ventr Revival
 12 am The Stand
 1 am Daria Key

MONDAY:
 10 pm The Pain
 11 pm One Way
 12 am Love Come
 1 am JDA

TUESDAY:
 10 pm Carnous Pools
 11 pm Hot Pollen
 12 am Fell Venus
 1 am Hokus Pick

WEDNESDAY:
 10 pm JDA
 11 pm Third Day
 12 am The Warning
 1 am Deliverance

Sponsored by the following magazines:

VIBE **TRUE TUNES NEWS** **HEAVEN'S METAL** **SYNDICATE**
 YOUR HARD MUSIC AUTHORITY

IN
6 YEARS
THE WORLD
HAS
CHANGED

SO
HAS THE
MUSIC ...

"TORN"

THE LONG
AWAITED
2nd ALBUM
BY ONE OF
ROCK'S
DEEPEST
BANDS

NEON
CROSS

neon cross

torn



coming to stores everywhere
in April.

FIFTY - SIX MILLION MILES TO GO...



**GRAVITY BEGINS
HER EQUINOX**

the Prayer Chain
MERCURY

AVAILABLE NOW WHEREVER YOU BUY MUSIC

Design by Jason Pickersgill (DCX-71) 714.671.9724



MANAGEMENT INFO: (510) 82-SHOUT BOOKING INFO: (714) 251-3977

RODE DOG RECORDS • P.O. Box 25330 • NASHVILLE, TN 37202 DISTRIBUTED BY WORD DISTRIBUTION & BMG DISTRIBUTION

Where do you go when the doors of a concert hall are opened? If you're like me, you head straight for the merchandise table to look at the latest t-shirt designs the band is selling. And then there's the showing off. I still remember anticipating the admiration and approval of my fellow classmates the first time I wore that Van Halen t-shirt the Monday after seeing them play live. T-shirts have become a way of life in the Western world, and they have become a natural way for young and old alike to communicate with those around them.

As Heaven's Metal continues to take a look at the music industry through "profile" articles, it is only natural to focus on T-shirts, which have become part of the rock and roll lifestyle. To enhance its own lifestyle, much of the evangelical church has adopted and adorned itself with "Christian" t-shirts ever since the onset of the Jesus movement, which saw millions of expressive young "Jesus freaks" communicating an eternal message through every means at their disposal, from music to movies to books and to clothing. We interviewed six of the hottest companies in Christian clothing, and we've asked them to help explain the phenomenon of Christian clothing, as well as describe the various approaches they take to clothe the body of Christ.

Close Encounters of the T-shirt Kind

Since some sort of message or symbolic artwork is inherent in Christian clothing, those that wear them often get a reaction from people they bump into. "I know a lot of kids have experienced problems wearing Christian t-shirts at schools," states Darren Davick of JPUSA's Belly Acres. "One kid wore one of our 'Die Happy' shirts to school and had to take it off. They were even looking into legal action against the school." This story is, unfortunately, not too uncommon. There have been



several reports of students wearing radical Christian designs that have been "outlawed," while their classmates are still permitted to wear a Cypress Hill shirt with marijuana leaves on it or a Slayer shirt with a crucified skeleton on it, or a Bad Religion shirt with a "cross buster" symbol on it. Did someone say "double standard?"

Sometimes the reaction is even violent, as Miriam Sisson of Living Epistles (the company that basically put Christian t-shirts on the map) explains, "One of our Community Reps in New York, John Layfield, was wearing one of our anti-abortion shirts on the subway. A woman came up to him and was almost immediately angered and really wanted to draw him into an argument about it and started hitting him. He was with a pastor, and that pastor started to pray and do spiritual warfare over what was happening, but the woman wasn't interested in hearing anything from him. She just wanted to destroy his shirt. She was clawing at it. He says those kinds of things happen to him everyday and he praises God for those kind of daily encounters with people, because it proves that the Word is alive. Not everyone who wears those shirts gets attacked,"

she laughs. "Obviously, many of our shirts are much more soft and easy-going, and some of them are just plain beautiful and you have to search for the Scripture on it."

It's not always the bold, in-your-face designs that get people talking, either, as Jeff Mosely of Star Song Apparel found out one night. "I was wearing one of our Truth shirts to a Subway shop," explains Mosely. "It just said 'Truth' on it. That's all it said -- Nothing, no Scriptures, nothing else. And one of the guys asked me about Truth: 'What is this?' I answered, 'Well, it's the Ultimate Truth!' And he said, 'The ultimate truth? What ultimate truth are you talking about?' And I got a chance to share my faith with a guy at a Subway shop, because I had on a shirt that simply said the word 'Truth' on it. I think, as Christians, we should be looking for opportunities to share our faith, and I think apparel is a great way to do that."

It's funny that God would use something as frivolous as clothing to start a conversation about His plan of salvation, but He's also threatened to use simple stones by the side of the road (Luke 19:40)! Not all the "close encounters of the t-shirt kind" are examples of two-way communication, though.

Believers often don a Christian design shirt simply to express to those around them how they feel about their God, or to simply identify themselves as a believer. "It helps me feel bolder about my faith," could very well be the claim of many. It's certainly a non-verbal way of sending a message. "According to John Layfield," continues Sisson, "wearing our shirts is just a really good way for him to be a witness just as he walks around. He goes into some very bad neighborhoods. He goes into crack houses and other places and passes out shirts there. He tells us that nothing in New York stops people. They see people with no clothes on. They see people with their hair standing up three feet in the air. And nothing will stop them -- no kind of activity or behavior -- but his shirts will stop people. Those kind of people, who are really bold, are able to use our shirts, and also people who are the Carpool Mom and they're wearing 'em everyday and the other mothers are seeing 'em. They're just as effective and awesome in the kingdom. That's the good thing about witness wear."

Evangelism as a Lifestyle or a Cotton Crutch?

While we're sure to hear reports in Heaven about how a Christian t-shirt or hat influenced many a 20th century soul to at least think towards salvation, there are many saints today that are concerned that we use this mode of advertising as a substitute for one-on-one or open-air evangelism. "It's not gonna make too much difference if you're wearing a Christian t-shirt if your life's not in order," says Davick. "There's a certain amount of hypocrisy there if you're gonna wear something like that and it's not noticeable that you're at least trying to represent Christ in your behavior."

PROFILE

ior.”

“Our philosophy with Truth,” shares Eric Hannah, “is: ‘Live it, Wear it, Share it.’ In other words, you’ve gotta have a life. You put on anything you want; but, if your life is filthy, who cares? Have your life be a quality life that people can respect, where people see that you’re different -- that you do actually make choices not to do the things that the secular world does. The shirt speaks so much louder when you have a life that matches the shirt. Then there’s the using that shirt to share your faith.”

“I don’t think a t-shirt can save a person,” adds Davick. “I don’t think most people see a t-shirt and get saved. I think most people see a t-shirt that’s got an idea or something that will spark them to think. Perhaps, if they’ll ask the person a question or they’ll think about something that has to do with eternity and their own soul... As a whole, I don’t think Christian t-shirts are responsible for changing people’s lives, but they might be the spark. Like a song, it might be something that makes you think in a different direction or ask that person a question that could change your life. We do a lot of our t-shirts now that more ask questions and make people think than try to present the whole Gospel on one t-shirt.”

While we’re on the subject, let’s ask ourselves a fundamental question: “How do you determine whether a t-shirt (or any other object, for that matter) is ‘Christian’ or not?” While not a perfectly sound theological label, it certainly is a convenient way to classify the products we’re profiling. Many bookstores have a standard when it comes to articles of art they sell: “If it’s music, it better have a Christian or biblical message in it. If it’s a statue or a painting, it better have a Scripture reference on it somewhere. We’re not

HM Staff Hamming It Up (L-R: Charles, Doug, Brian, Charlotta)



gonna sell secular art, so this art must distinguish itself in some visual way.” Christian t-shirts have always fallen into this visual verification category, but many “non-blantant” or simple designs are becoming popular, maybe as a backlash against the “pop Christianity” flavor seen in many t-shirt designs. The message or “billboard” t-shirts aren’t for everybody, just as bumper stickers aren’t everyone’s idea of a well-decorated car.

A negative by-product of the boom in Christian t-shirts is the standard that can sometimes develop: “Wow, Johnny doesn’t wear the bold designs like I do. Maybe something’s wrong with his faith?” While Johnny’s outward appearance may communicate something that’s going on inside, Jesus warned us about judging by outward appearance: “You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.” (Matthew 23:25) It’s the same kind of problem that develops within music circles, when we start judging each other’s “ministry value” or “anointing level” by the clarity of the message. T-shirts are fun to wear, but we can take the fun out of ‘em real fast if we take them too seriously.

From Rags to Riches

Just as many t-shirt wearers have a story, and even the t-shirt designs themselves sometimes have a story behind ‘em, so do the individual t-shirt companies. Living Epistles was started by Jeff Nicholson (formerly known as Niki Syxx before the Motley Crue bassist ripped it off). Jeff got saved, joined up with the Darrell Mansfield Band, saw people’s fascination with t-shirts, and came up with his “three-second” theory: “Anything on a t-shirt could be read in three seconds, so why not put the message of God’s love, encouragement, and even rebuke on shirts?” Nicholson has taken this theory and this company to the top of the Christian clothing industry. Living Epistles is now the 39th largest screenprinter in the world, which means they make more shirts than Disney! The “Lord’s Gym” model has passed the 500,000 shirts sold mark last year, which is a feat that quite possibly has not been met by anyone anywhere.

Lynn Herron, of Boom-1 Productions, has done merchandising road work with mainstream acts, and currently works for Sony Signatures, the merchandising division for Sony.

A cousin of his was an Amy Grant fan, and he thought, “I’ll run down to the Christian bookstore, pick her up an Amy Grant shirt, and send it to her for her birthday.” When he found out that Christian bookstores weren’t supplied with band t-shirts, he talked with his friend Jimmy Tidwell and started Boom-1. Now they are distributed into stores by Diamante Music Group.

Belly Acres was started in 1989 by Jesus People USA to help support the community, much like its other businesses -- Lake Front Roofing Supply, and Creative Wood Design. Darren Davick, who has a business degree from Oral Roberts University, stepped in a couple years later to run the company.

Truth Clothing was started by Eric Hannah, whose background work with film and video has been seen on MTV and ESPN; and Scott Brinson, who used to work at Frontline Records. Their paths crossed when Eric was working on the soundtrack for the *Extreme Attitude* film. Scott asked him if he had thought about putting clothing in his film. Their paths later crossed when Eric started working on the Mortal video for “Rift.” They decided to make a clothing line for Mortal to sell on the road, which turned into Truth Clothing. Truth was distributed by Diamante Music Group, but has switched over to Star Song Distribution and become part of the Star Song Apparel Group -- consisting of Truth, T. Shertman, and WAMM! (Where Apparel Means Ministry).

Solid Light was started by Tom Flowers and Stan Peterson, who have been friends many years. Tom led Stan to the Lord about ten years ago, and their friendship grew, and then they used their experience in the t-shirt business. They both thought, “What a way to spread the Gospel!” Paula Sauer of Solid Light figures that “if they were authors, they would probably be writing books together.”

While none of the companies bragged about sales of their t-shirts, the industry has grown tremendously since their

7302 JAM FOR THE LAMB

TEE: WHITE & ASH (ADULT SM - XL) \$14.99
TEE: WHITE & ASH (XXL) \$16.99



SOLID LIGHT CO.

ALL T-SHIRTS ARE HEAVYWEIGHT 100% COTTON

ORDER NOW

800-726-9606

NEARLY 100 DESIGNS
AVAILABLE IN '95 CATALOGUE

AVAILABLE AT CHRISTIAN BOOKSTORES WORLDWIDE

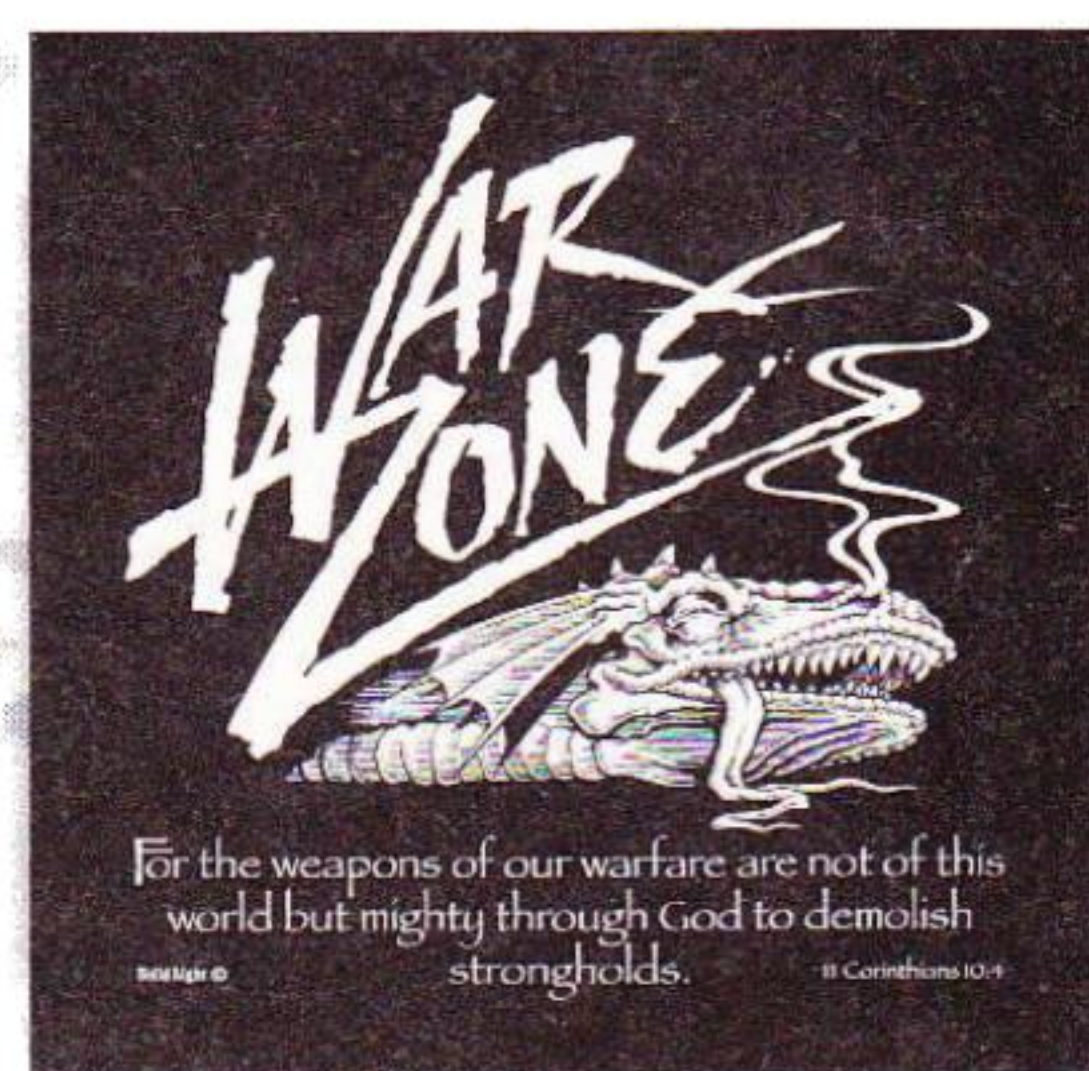
7403 THREE CROSSES

TWO SIDED OVER ALL PRINT
TEE: BLACK (ADULT LG - XL) \$18.99



7405 WAR ZONE

FULL COLOR FRONT/ONE COLOR BACK
TEE: BLACK (ADULT LG - XL) \$18.99

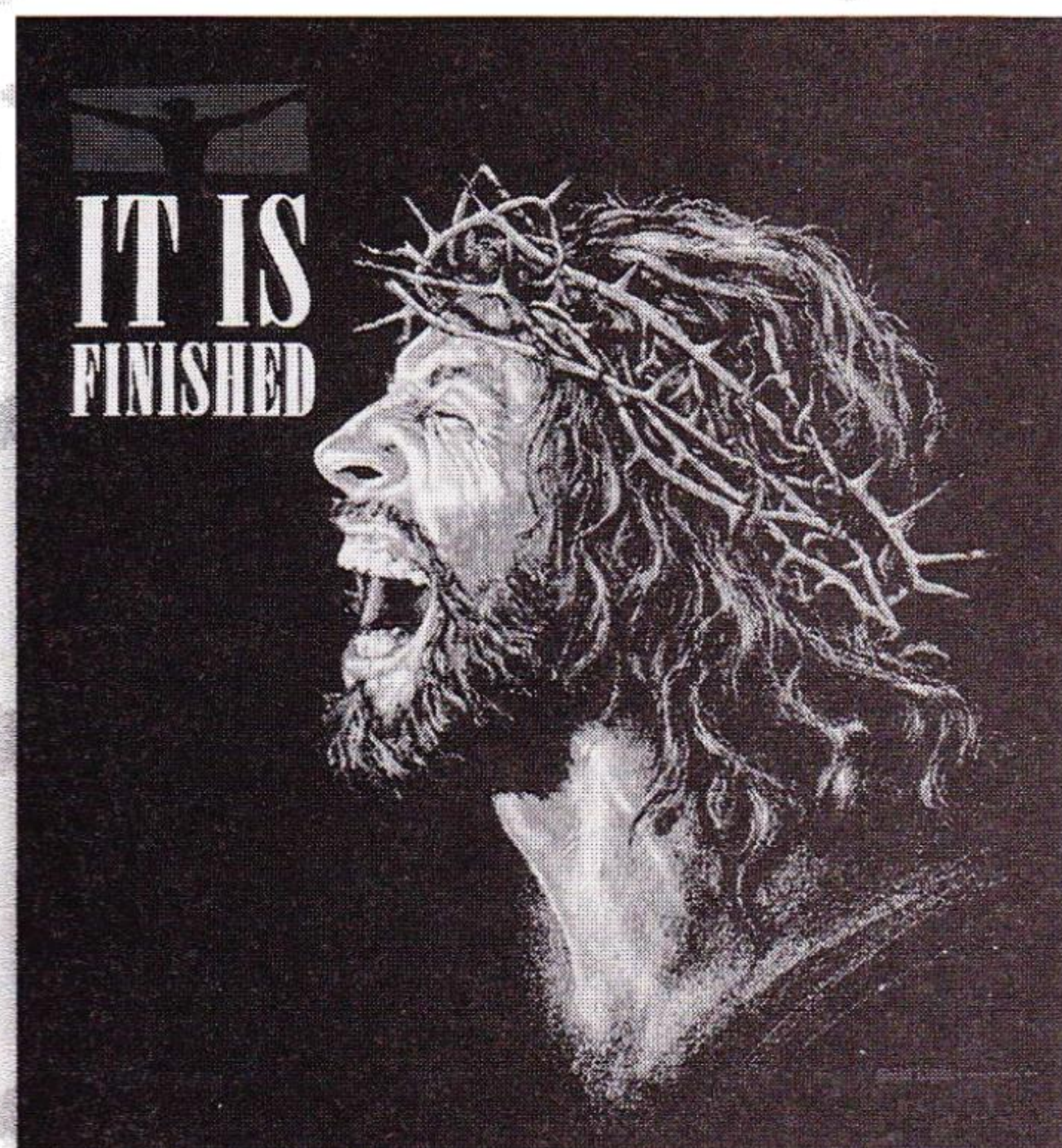


8545 IT IS FINISHED

FULL COLOR/TWO SIDES
TEE: BLACK (ADULT SM - XL) \$14.99
TEE: BLACK (XXL) \$16.99

SEPARATION FROM GOD...IS FINISHED
SATAN'S POWER...IS FINISHED
THE PENALTY OF SIN...IS FINISHED
THE STING OF DEATH...IS FINISHED
SIN'S STRONGHOLD...IS FINISHED

IT IS
FINISHED



introduction into the market less than 8 years ago. While not all the companies can say they're rich, industry sources estimate that annual sales combined to total more than \$30 Million in 1994.

"Our sales are almost doubling every year," states Sauer, "so I would say that t-shirt sales are definitely still growing. I think a lot of new companies are coming into the market with different flairs. More and more bookstores are devoting more space for their t-shirts. Year after year I see stores that might've devoted 20 square feet, who now are at 100 square feet. I think that both Christian music and t-shirts

are on the rise."

Surely, as these figures would suggest, there must be some kind of competitive awareness between each of the companies. Although our survey indicates that over 1/3 of our readers buy more than four shirts per year, there are only so many consumers out there to sell t-shirts to, right? Well, one other thing these figures tell us is that the ceiling for Christian t-shirt sales has not even been hit. If it does ever hit a stopping point, then the competition might get stiffer. Right now, it appears that there's lots of room for growth.

Fierce Competition or Friendly Diversity?

As one peek into just one company's t-shirt catalog will tell you, there are hundreds of t-shirt designs to choose from. How do the companies deal with their competition? Our findings showed a group of business people who had cooperative attitudes toward each other. "I think a lot of different Christian t-shirt companies have a pretty good attitude towards competition," agrees Davick. "For example, Living Epistles and ourselves; there are occasions where they have bought our t-shirts and taken them to different festivals and sold them. There are occasions where we have bought their shirts and sold them

at our festival. We have a very friendly competitive atmosphere. Most of us believe that most of these Christian t-shirt companies are a little bit differentiated in what they do and their different styles. And so I don't look upon them as my competitor, because I think we have a little bit different style or approach than other companies. It's a very friendly competition. We manufacture for other t-shirt companies. We're not out to cut-throat anybody and, in a lot of occasions, we've tried to help each other."

Even though there will obviously be natural competition in the market, it seems diversity

Here's a list of several Christian t-shirt companies and what they specialize in:

WORD WEAR - "Providing Christians with a high-impact tool for witnessing -- based on thought-provoking one-liners, rather than being art-intensive. In a two second encounter passing someone in a mall, you've planted a seed in their mind. Kind of like the 'Banner Man' with John 3:16 at the football games, it really works." Consumers & Retailers write: Jon

Palm, 20 Farrell Ln, Fredericksburg VA 22407. Retailers call (after 6 pm EST): (703) 898-4443

DYED 4 U - A whole new concept in t-shirt design. Similar to the Hypercolor shirts of days gone by, these shirts feature actual artwork that changes! With the use of heat sensitive dyes, the image begins to change at 75 degrees and peak out at 85. There are dyes that disappear, change color completely, and lighten. The light sensitive dyes start out invisible and appear in color when exposed to sunlight. Current designs include: a

color-changing dove; and a globe that a cross appears on. They also accept custom orders for churches, bands, etc. Suggested retail price for most designs is \$19.95. Consumers & Retailers call: (800) 4DYED4U (1-800-439-3348)

RANSOM - A new Christian line of clothing that incorporates today's styles with subtle Christian designs to produce apparel that appeals to all age groups. "We have captured the attention of many pro athletes currently in the NFL, such as John Kidd and Irving Fryar of the Miami

Dolphins, John Carney of the San Diego Chargers, and Brent Jones of the San Francisco 49er's. They are not only excited about wearing our clothing, but also eager to endorse the apparel. Our company takes pride in producing the highest quality garments with thought-provoking statements, like: 'Where's Your Soul Going?' or 'Never Ever Say Die!' or 'Get A Life,' and many more." Consumers & Retailers call: (619) 449-8183

END TIMES - Sponsor of bands such as P.O.D.,

of product and a common goal of producing a product for the glory of God prevails over a dog-eat-dog business mentality. Each of the companies we talked to, as well as the ones listed in this article, have their own unique approach to t-shirt design. While Living Epistles made popular the "message" or "billboard" design, they also carry several "feminine" and graphic-driven designs -- as does Solid Light -- that are worn as much for their look as their message.

"We've tried not to be a niche market," explains Sauer. "We have product that is enjoyed by all ages and both sexes. While many of the companies target primarily that young, teenage-to-young-adult market, I think Solid Light hits the other market segment." Solid Light was also the first to market the embossed design, where the actual design is formed into the shirt to create a three-dimensional image. They have also developed the "My Coloring Shirt," which features a black & white cartoon and includes a set of fabric crayons, so that one can create and wear their own design.

Boom-1 meets a long-time need out there by bringing Christian band merchandise to the retail level for the first time. "We're the only company that's doing Christian artist wear," states Boom-1's Jimmy Tidwell. "If you're in some small town where your favorite artist isn't going to come, there might be a bookstore that will carry it and you can still pick it up even though you might not get to see 'em in concert." This way, the band gets more exposure for their shirts and receives a royalty for licensing their image to Boom-1, and they don't have to worry about all the cares of

manufacturing, warehousing and selling the merchandise. Some of Boom-1's accounts include the Tooth & Nail logo shirts, Guardian, Bride, The Kry, and they're always working on signing more.

Belly Acres developed the classic "Liar, Lunatic, or Lord" all-over print design that is very popular. Besides offering plenty of attractive shirts with classic and original art images, they also manufacture (but don't sell) shirts for a lot of bands, like Living Sacrifice, REZ, Crashdog, Circle of Dust, Tourniquet, Poor Old Lu, Jesus Freaks, Unashamed, The Blamed, Scaterd Few, and Mortification (to name a few). "We do about 25 different Christian bands," explains Davick. "It's mostly a manufacturing issue. I mean, bands like us because of the service we provide them. I think some bands appreciate dealing with a Christian company -- that we might be a little more honest and open with them than somebody else, and we might take a little more time and consideration in making their shirt and give them good service and make sure their shirts are on time and give them a good price."

Truth Clothing specializes in shirts, shorts, and caps that are more high-quality than your average t-shirt. They use over-dyed, thick cotton shirts and simple designs and embroidered surf/skate type shorts. "I look at the apparel market on three levels," states Mosely. "There's: mass market tees; fashion tees; and apparel. The mass market tees are primarily white t-shirts -- some black -- they have pretty bold, Christian messages on them. Fashion tees are typically colored shirts with

more design elements, maybe more logo-oriented as opposed to message-oriented. Then the apparel is what I call 'cut and sew,' which is actually designing and cutting patterns and sewing together shorts, shirts and those kinds of things. I've banned the word 't-shirts' from our vocabulary here at Star Song Apparel. The marketplace today is predominantly mass-market, moving toward more fashion tees, dabbling in and having some success in apparel. I believe the market is going to be shifting more toward fashion and apparel, because I think people are looking for a way to integrate their faith into their everyday lifestyle, whether at work or at leisure.

"For those that are really serious about the Gospel, we are in a thing called 'Christian lifestyle.' I think that is what all of our pastors from the pulpit are talking about -- having a Christian worldview and a Christian lifestyle. As such, I think we will look for products that will enhance that lifestyle -- be it the music we listen to, the clothes we wear, the books we read, the videos we watch. I think there's a growing trend towards what I would call 'Christian lifestyle products.'"

This trend towards apparel probably also spells a trend towards the less bold, less said shirts and garments. While the growth of this market is just beginning to skyrocket, it probably in no way will slow down or counter the sales of the "billboard" shirts that say it all.

"I think the biggest compliment that we have heard," shares Hannah, "and we have to remind ourselves of this when we find that Truth sales definitely aren't like Living Epistles'

sales. And that is: A lot of people say, 'I've never worn a Christian t-shirt in my life. I never would wear a Christian shirt in my life, until I saw a Truth shirt, and I wear it.' That's probably the biggest compliment we get. I don't think it has anything to do with the spirituality or the weakness or strength of that person as a Christian. It goes back to styles and lifestyles of the clothing. I think that we're offering a clothing line. Some people naturally wear more billboard shirts by their makeup. Some people like more clothing pieces. I think we're hitting a group of people that like to dress up a little bit, that like to have something a little more like a clothing item. Add the simplicity of the designs, and I think that's why we get a tremendous amount of people saying, 'For the first time, I would actually wear a Christian shirt.'

"I'm not trying to down play wearing billboard shirts. I think we need both. I'm not the type of person that wears billboard shirts of any kind -- whether it's secular or ones that are funny. I like to dress up a little bit more. I'm not the type of person that normally wears t-shirts, unless I'm working out.

"I think that maybe some of the shirts have been a little too gory -- a little too over the edge. Others, I think, are maybe a little threatening -- maybe too much in-your-face for their friends. We are trying to stick to the clothing mentality, not the billboard mentality. I think that this is why we can stand side-by-side in the same industry."

Copy Cats: Cool or Crooked?

Six Feet Deep, and E.D.L. "Wear their wear and have others ask questions. Send a buck for good luck and get a sticker too!" Consumers & Retailers call: (619) 486-5293

WITNESS WEAR - "A walking example for Christ." Top design: "Fear Not!" New design: "Either Going Up Or Going Down, Deal With It." A wholesaler/manufacturer of Christian t-shirts. Consumers & Retailers call: (800) 226-4924 (ask for Wade)

STAR SONG APPAREL GROUP - Carries Truth Clothing, T. Shertman, and WAMM! (Where Apparel Means Ministry). Retailers Contact: (615) 269-0196; 2325 Crestmoor Rd, Nashville TN 37215

LIVING EPISTLES - Pioneers in the Christian t-shirt industry. Has two "get involved" programs: Community Reps, where you become an Avon Lady type person; and the "Great Idea" contest, where your design idea can turn into a t-shirt and get you \$100.

Consumers call: (800) 874-4790. Retailers call: (503) 882-7777

SOLID LIGHT - Outfits the whole family -- from Mother's wear to the fashion-conscience student to the rock 'n' roller. Features embossed designs, "My Coloring Shirt" kits, "Funnies," caps, sports designs, and more. Consumers & Retailers call: (800) 726-9606

BELLY ACRES - Specializes in eye-catching, fashionable designs with thoughtful, intelligent

messages. Run out of Jesus People USA's community, Belly Acres does a lot of contract work for outside bands. Consumers & Retailers call: (800) 934-8797

BOOM 1 PRODUCTIONS - The first company to offer artist wear on the retail level. Currently carries lots of hard music bands, including Guardian, Bride, The Kry, and the Tooth & Nail logo shirts. Consumers write: 534 Fedders Dr, Madison TN 37115. Retailers call: Diamante Music Group (800) 766-4364

The Christian t-shirt industry has received lots of exposure in the last few years, but a 1991 issue of Rolling Stone may have inadvertently given the young industry its first shot at infamy in an interview with King's X. In the article, Doug Pinnick complained about a certain style of t-shirt design -- the spoof. He said, "*I get so disgusted when I see these t-shirts with 'Megalife' and it looks like 'Megadeth.' I'm going, 'Do something original! If you Christians do something original, maybe people would respect you.'*" (Rolling Stone, 2/21/91, Issue 598, p. 30)

Most of the Christian t-shirt companies that were asked about this agreed with Pinnick's comment to varying degrees. "I would agree in principle," states Davick, "but I wouldn't go that far. I mean, the world spoofs itself. Often times they take off an idea and make something out of it. I don't think it's inherently wrong or bad. I do think we as Christians should be more creative and strive for creativity. We've sort of stopped doing any kind of direct rip-off of other artwork mostly. We do borrow, however, from a lot of classic art from the distant past."

"I agree with him," says Sauer. "I think Solid Light is very original. I've seen a t-shirt that looks like Budweiser. I'm not sure what it says, but I don't think we have to look like the world to spread the Gospel. We shouldn't try to copy the worldly sayings and phrases to get our message across.

"We all have to be careful not to downplay the Name of Jesus by throwing it on clothing," states Hannah. "I want to be careful with that in what we do. But shouldn't we be innovative? Shouldn't we be the originators? Shouldn't we be able to be the creative ones? Shouldn't the secular people want to steal from us? Because, what does that look like, when you see 'Reborn' instead of Reebok? Or 'Be Wiser' instead of Budweiser? How many times does a person look at that? Yeah, it may be funny, but can you downplay the deity of Christ any lower? Our hope for Truth . . . we don't go to surf shops and say, 'Oh, we like that logo. Let's copy that!' We can honestly say that everything we do comes from within our heads and just living our lives. No one will ever say that we ripped off anybody's logo or anything. T-shirts are t-shirts, you know. You're gonna have similarities in the fact that t-shirts are made up of similar colors, but even our colors we've designed and tried to originate on our own. Our goal, and I hope this doesn't happen, but we would like to see people steal from us in the secular industry. Let our stuff be so good that people try to rip the Christians off.

"I get very passionate about this only because . . . first of all, there's two images there. You've got companies that

spend millions and millions of dollars promoting their product -- whether it's Budweiser or Reebok. Then you see a Christian come along and just rip it off. Why is that shirt selling? Why is 'Be Wiser' selling? Because of the millions of dollars that Budweiser spent in marketing. How does that make a secular company view Christians? 'They're thieves, they're common criminals.'

"When a band comes along and sounds like another band -- I mean chooses to sound like another band -- and says, 'Well, we're Christians, so we're just gonna sound like another band.' Don't you lose respect for them in a way? First you say, 'Oh cool! Now we have Christian stuff that sounds like this.' There's also an underlying issue there, too. It's too bad that we aren't more creative.

"I kept hearing, when I was doing films, that the Christian industry was 5 to 10 years behind in certain areas. Why do we have to be? Who made that rule? Where's the rulebook that says we have to be 5 to 10 years behind? I think it becomes a fact that, because we say we are in the Christian industry -- a subculture -- we can settle, we can steal, we can be less creative, because, 'Hey! Christians are gonna buy it anyway!' I don't mean to be so harsh, because I know that there's a place for those kind of things. I have no negativity towards any other company, I just don't think stealing is gonna earn people's respect in the 90's. I have utmost respect for every company out there. My goodness, you know why? If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't be out there ourselves and, just because I don't wear some of that stuff, does not mean that it's not good. We've gotta have some of that stuff in the industry."

"A lot of Living Epistle shirts are parodies," comments Sisson. "And we do that to be modern and to also answer some of the issues that are going through the minds and the lives of young people. Some of our shirts look a lot like the real popular and trendy designs that you're seeing out there. It's really a marketing tool that we use -- and we do it intentionally. It's not because we have a lack of artistic ability. Many of our shirts are original art. If it looks like a popular design, it's by design. And the teens really like it. They love the twist on it."

"Originality is almost a vague term these days," concludes Davick, "because there's so much borrowing going on. What can you call original anymore? To a certain degree, we're always borrowing . . . it's just to what degree you're borrowing. If the goal is getting people saved, changing people's lives, and getting people to think about things, then bickering about originality is not what I want to spend my time doing."

Since we live in a "t-shirt" society, we're sure to see the continued growth of the Christian t-shirt industry. We'll probably still see members of R.E.M. wear pro-choice shirts on Music Award shows, and we'll still see people like the "Banner Man" that Steve Taylor honored in his song of the same title jumping in front of the camera at football games with his "Jesus Loves You" t-shirt. Whether you like the XXL sizes, the tight medium sizes, the grunge green ones, the black ones, the billboard ones, or the apparel-types, the key thing to notice is you've got a wide selection to choose from. In addition to the six companies interviewed here, there are several more that all have their own unique style and emphasis. So, choose your own, and may your colors never fade. **HM**

TOUR DATES

These dates are booked well in advance, so please check with the numbers listed for confirmation of the concert. If the mood strikes you, send in your review of the show . . . it may get printed in Heaven's Metal!

PRAYER CHAIN

5/1	Fort Meyer, FL	813-574-2127
5/3	Jackson, MS	601-362-6560
5/4	Memphis, TN	901-757-9497
5/5	Greenville, IL	714-251-3977
5/17	Phoenix, AZ	714-251-3977
5/18	Rosswell, NM	505-623-8670
5/20	Minneapolis, MN	612-781-8488
5/21	Grand Rapids, MI	714-251-3977
5/24	Austin, TX	714-251-3977
5/25	Houston, TX	714-251-3977
5/26	Dallas, TX	817-320-5447
5/27	Bartlesville, OK	817-320-5447
5/29	Anaheim, CA	714-777-4777

BRIDE

5/13	Stafford VA	No number
5/27	Knoxville, TN	502-922-4870
6/3	Winnipeg Canada	204-897-2325
6/17	Minneapolis, MN	612-781-8488
6/23	Keyser, WV	304-788-2982
6/24	Louisville, KY	502-367-9121
6/29	to 7/2 Scandinavia	
7/8	Beloit, WI	608-752-3360

SIX FEET DEEP

5/20	Chicago, IL	No number
------	-------------	-----------

REZ BAND

7/7-9	Willmar, MN	612-235-0119
-------	-------------	--------------

CRASHDOG

7/7-9	Willmar, MN	612-235-0119
-------	-------------	--------------

DELIVERANCE

4/25	Nashville TN	602-804-9737
4/28	Memphis TN	"
4/29	Albuquerque NM	"
4/30	Phoenix AZ	"

TOWNE CRYER



HEAVY MUSIC STILL EXISTS

TC'S NEW RELEASE

"DEATH by SIN"

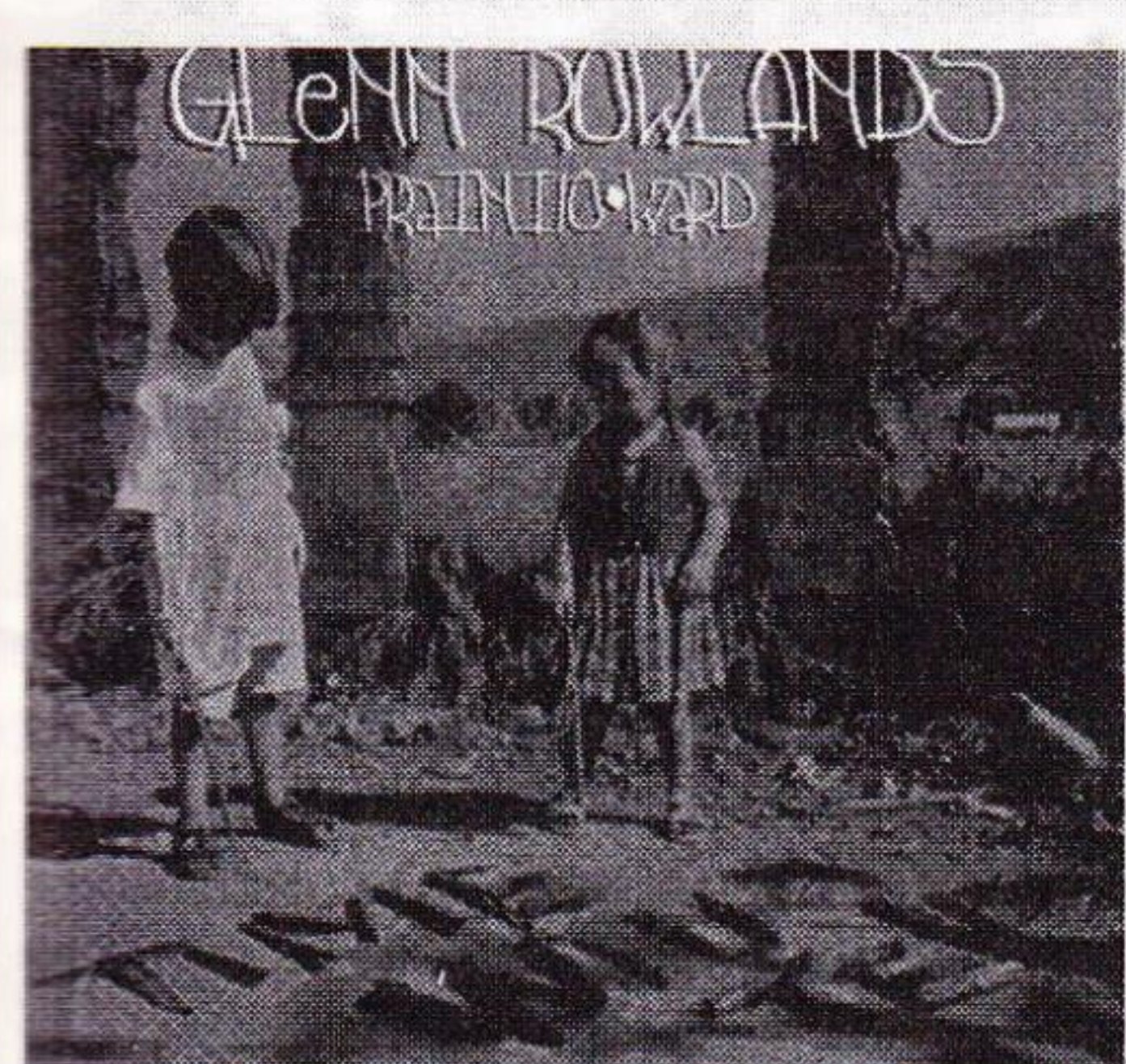
TO ORDER: SEND \$7.00 cass. \$10.00 C.D. (includes S.H.)
 (checks payable Ron McClure)
 T.C. PO. Box 3662 San Bernardino CA. 92404



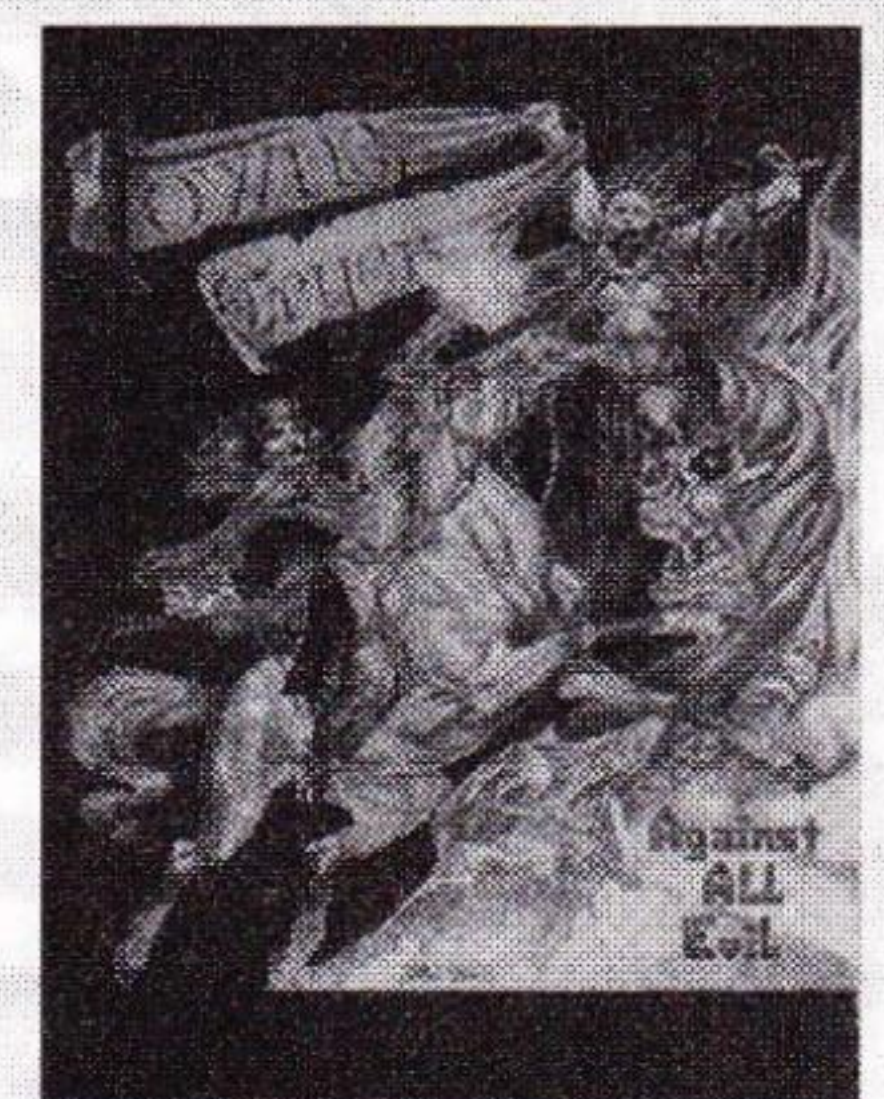
TC'S 94' RELEASE "AGIANST ALL EVIL" IS STILL AVAILABLE \$7.00 (cass. only)



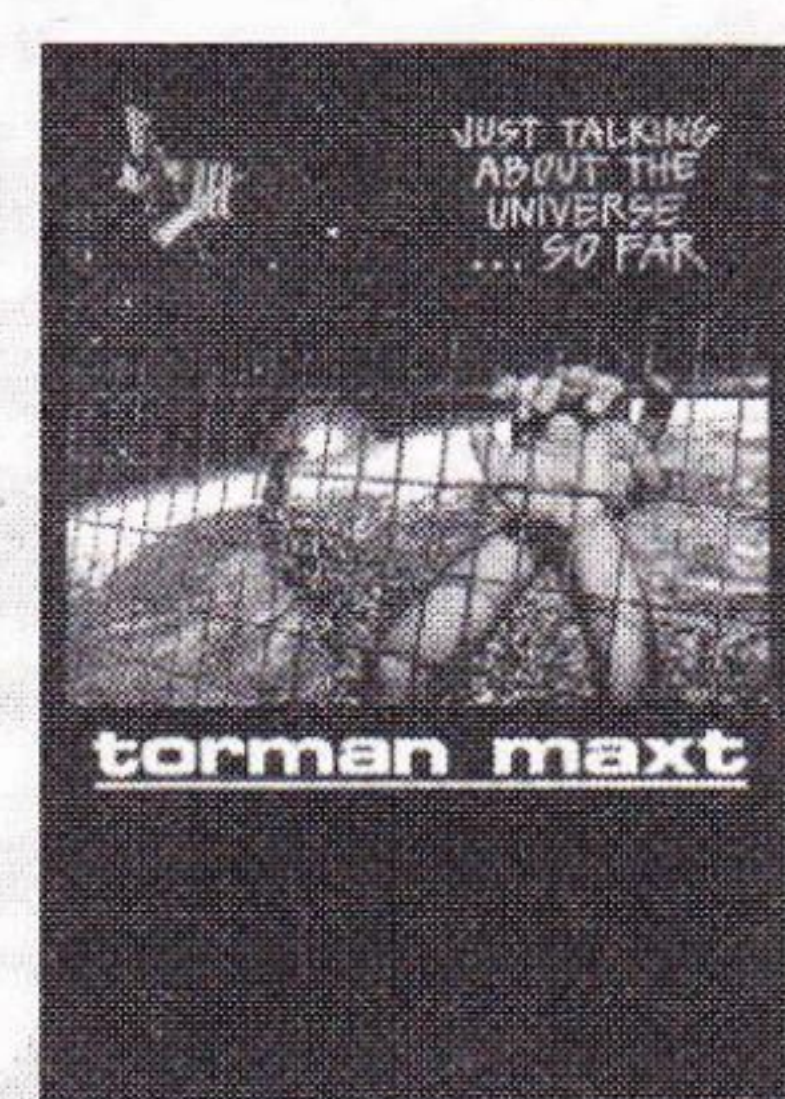
FLOPPY FISH PROMOTIONS PRESENTS



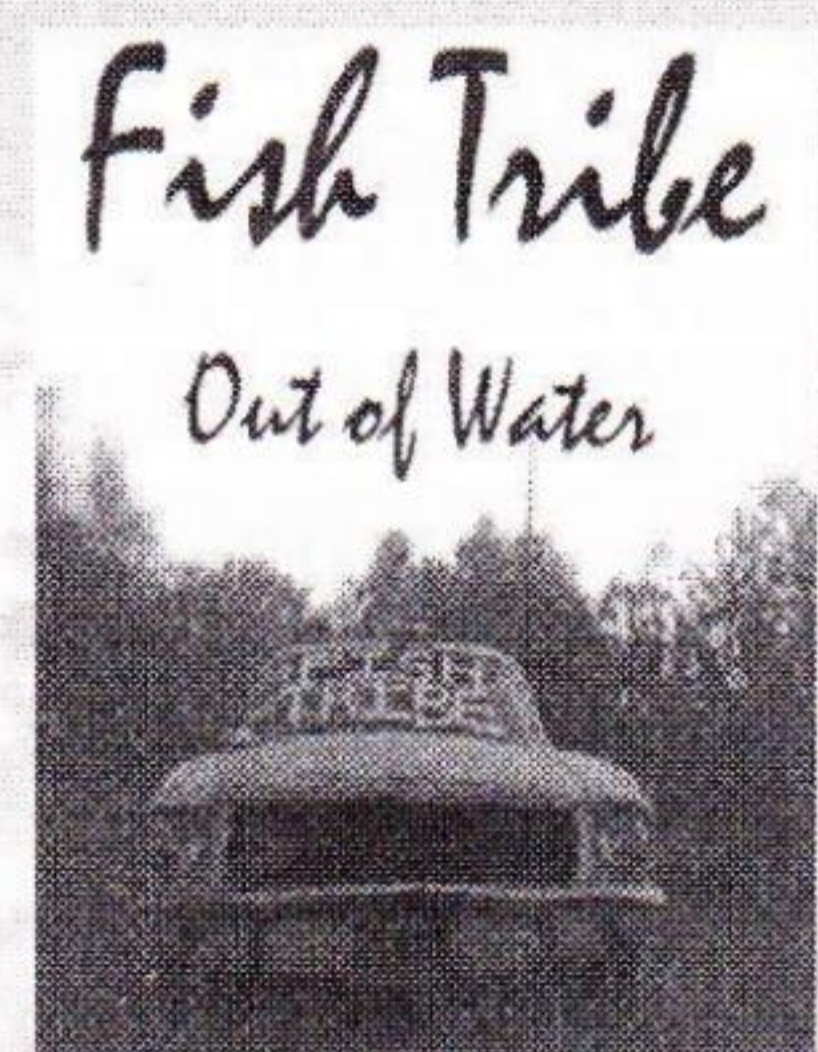
GLENN ROWLANDS
 TIME WILL TELL
 altern/hard rock
 \$9.00 cass.
 \$11.00 CD



TOWNE CRYER
 AGAINST ALL EVIL
 metal/thrash
 \$7.00 cass.



TORMAN MAXT
 progressive metal/rock
 \$8.00 cass.
 \$10.00 CD



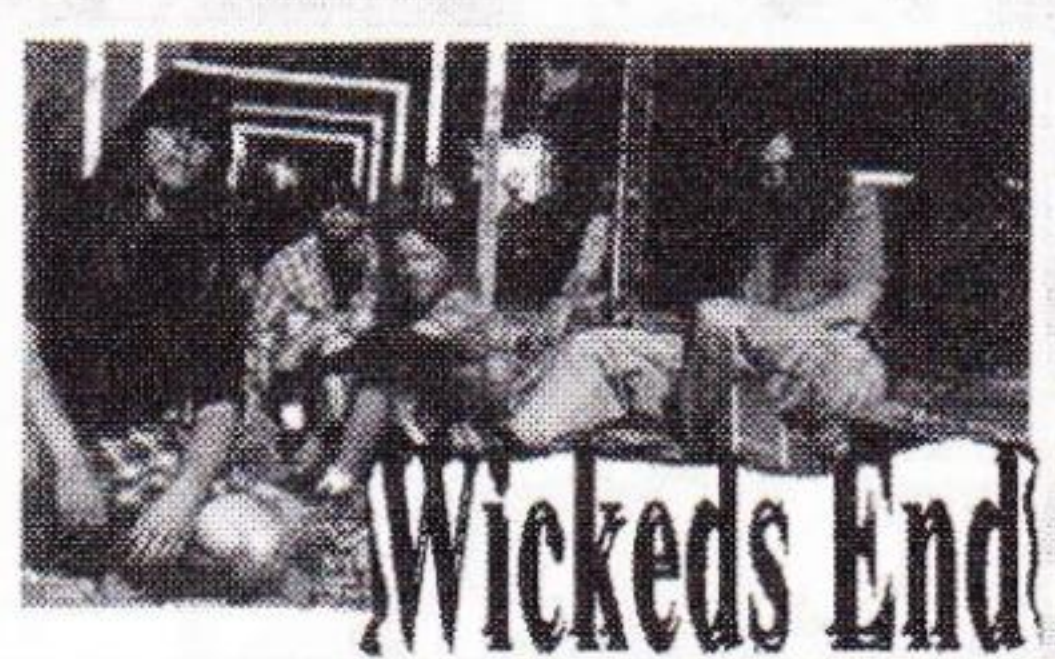
FISH TRIBE
 OUT OF WATER
 altern/groove
 \$5.50 EP cass.



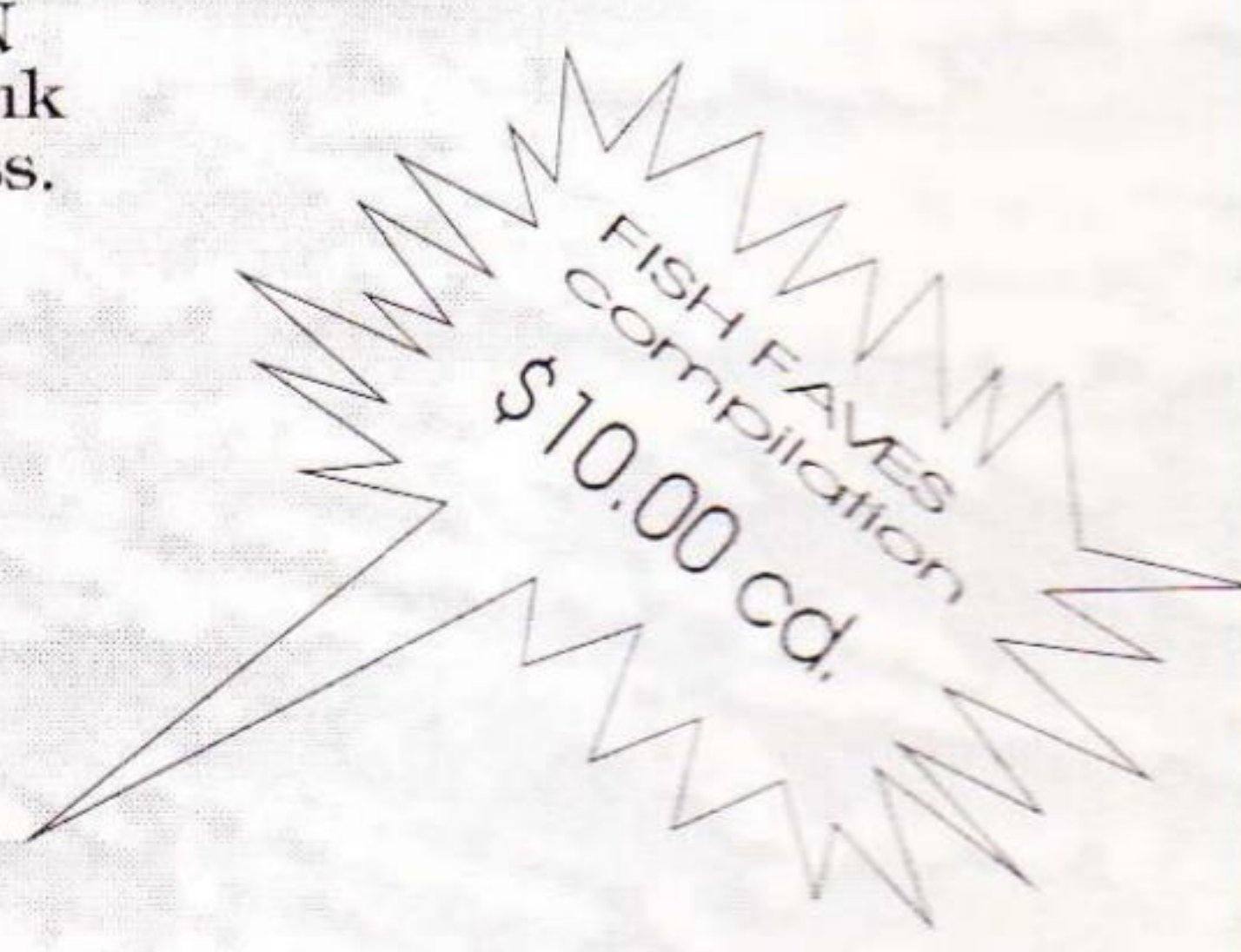
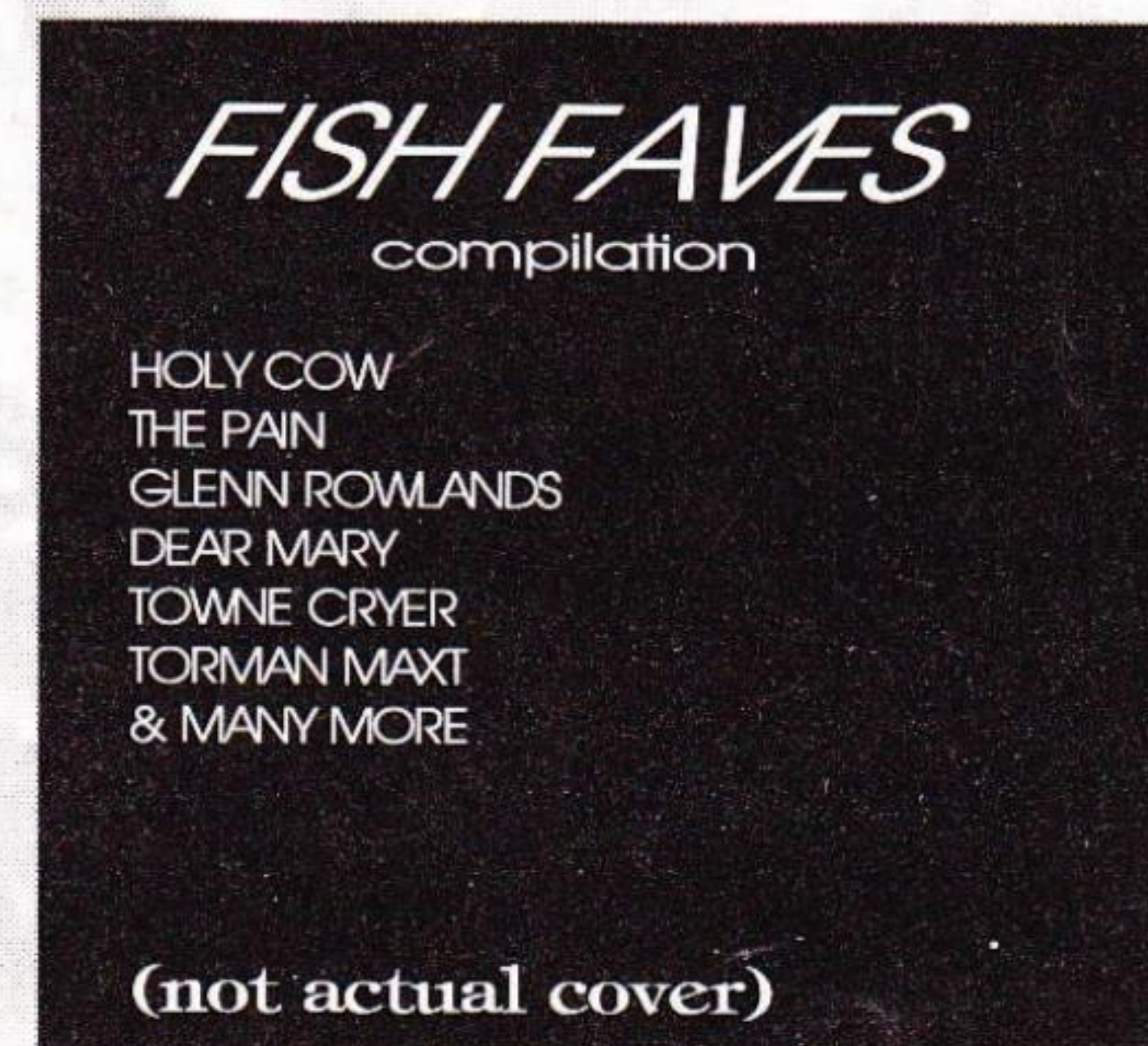
THE PAIN
 altern/punk
 \$8.00 cass.



HOLY COW
 alternative
 \$7.00 cass.
 \$9.00 C.D



WICKED'S END
 TEMPORAL PAIN
 hard core/metal/thrash
 \$1.50 EP cass.



ORDER YOUR FLOPPY FISH T-SHIRT
 TODAY!!
 W/THE FLOPPY FISH LOGO
 BLK-WHT-GRY-GRN-MRN
 X-TRA LRG.
 \$12.00

What Type O Negative Sez:

This issue our "What So & So Sez" feature brings us the new rising purveyors of doom -- Type O Negative. Listen in as vocalist Peter Steele and Heaven's Metal Editor Doug Van Pelt discuss cats, music, and the Messiah.

What was the number one lesson you've learned so far, from the incessant touring you've been doing?

"That I should've stayed in school. I should've listened to my father, and been an architect or a civil engineer, like I really wanted to be. This is definitely not the life for me. I have a girlfriend, so I don't like sluts. I don't like crowds. I don't like noise. I don't like lights and people, so this to me is a nightmare; but it's only for now and I'm going to make as much money as I can and then I'm just going to disappear off the face of the earth."

So, how long of a future are you giving yourself, for Type O Negative?

"I'd say about three more years. Three . . . three to five years. I think I can hold my breath for that long."

I heard a story in Kerrang! recently that the guys in the Danzig crew were, or Glen Danzig, were pretty intimidated by you guys.

"I have not read this article, but it's funny you should say that, because we were on the first leg of this Danzig tour and, up until last week, we were assured that we would be on the second leg as well. Through the grapevine we had heard that we were being dumped; and, sure enough, sometime last week we were told that we would not be joining Mr. Danzig on the second leg. And I think that comes from the fact that Glen just don't like competition. But, you know, a job's a job; and, as it turns out, we're being picked up by Pantera."

That's kinda cool.



"It's, uh, from seven to nine weeks; and I know Phil (Anselmo), and he's a really cool guy. I like the band and I'm looking forward to having a good time with them."

How has the somewhat delayed success with your album, *Bloody Kisses* -- that was released about a year ago . . . How has this delayed success made you guys feel?

"Uh, guilty -- being that it was all my fault. Because I was the guy who could not decide whether or not if I wanted to quit my day job to make music my career. And I waited, about six months after the album was released to make that decision, and I think that if we had started touring just as the album came out, it would have probably been even more successful, but it was probably the hardest choice that I had to make in my whole life -- to leave my job, which I liked. So, we really didn't start to support this album until last February, and it's doing really well."

Yeah, that's what I hear.

"Yeah, uh, last week, we sold over 8,000 albums. In the month of November we sold over 30,000 units. And that's just in the States here, so we're making somebody rich."

Yeah, that must make Roadrunner happy -- a small label. What do you like about early Black Sabbath?

"What do I like about early Black Sabbath? Uh, their pioneering spirit. They had the courage and/or the creativity to do something totally different. In a way it was like, all the heavy bands at that time were, like, into singing about anti-war stuff. You know, trying to portray almost like a positive message. These guys came out with a message that sounded real. It was a negative message, you know, like, 'The world is a (bleeped)-up place,' and, like, 'Satan's lookin' over your shoulder,' and all this other stuff. I liked the fact that the lyrics sounded like the music, and vice versa. They complimented each other, which is something that

I'd learned from Sabbath and I try to put into the songs that I write."

In the song, "Christian Woman," there seems to be some delight taken in defiling a Christian, or a pure virgin. What is the appeal here?

"Well, that was not really what I had in mind when I wrote that song. Having been raised Catholic and realizing that most Christian teachings are quite anti-nature . . . I don't have any respect for weak philosophies, such as, like, Christianity. You know, having become a pain, so I just wanted to point out to the public how religion . . . I mean, you know, any kind: Judaism, or Catholicism can screw somebody up when a person's natural feelings are inhibited -- such as sexuality. And so, it wasn't so much that I wanted to rape, like, a nine year-old girl -- which some people seem to think is what I'm trying to say here. But, what I was trying to say was that, you know,

these feelings have to come out somehow, and they can come out in really (bleeped) up ways, whereas this girl has sexual feelings that cannot be suppressed. She goes to sleep every night looking up at a crucifix on her wall. She's either twelve or thirteen, so the hormones are gushing through her little system. And here's Christ up on the cross, all sweaty and naked, and so, when she closes her eyes, little fingers do the walkin'."

What do you think of Jesus Christ?

"Uh, I thought he was a fool. I would not have died for the sins of humanity. They're not worth it. I don't believe that Christ was the Son of God. I, uh, I believe that he was a great philosopher, and that his teachings were extremely beautiful; however, they were anti-nature. I mean, you know, to turn the other cheek. That, to me, just does not go along with what I think. Because most people mistake kindness for stupidity. When you turn the other cheek, not only will you get your other one slapped, but you'll get your (bleepin') head kicked in at the same time -- in this day and age. So, it is not a good philosophy in these modern times."

What do you think about His claims, when He said something like, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, and no one comes to the father but by me?"

"What do I think of that? If those are words that he really said, I suppose I'd have to brand him a psychopath."

Okay.

"But, you know, most of what is in the Bible was written by man and is speculation, you know. There is a lot of exaggeration. There's a lot of misrepresentation, so I find it hard to believe that Christ even spoke those exact words."

What do look at as your authority as far as scrutinizing the Biblical record?

"As my authority?"

Yeah, I mean what... like, if you look at a text that criticizes the Bible, or if the Bible criticizes another text.

One's using one as an authority, one's using the other. Do you have a particular authority?

"I use my own thoughts as the authority. I don't need anybody to tell me what to think. No one ever said to me that the church is wrong or that the Bible is wrong. You know, this is something that I've come up with myself -- just by examining my feelings and my, you know, being raised Catholic and having gone to a Catholic school for 8 years and seeing just how hypocritical the church is. The church has the worst record in history as far as, like uh, bribery goes and, you know, like all kinds of sexual (bleep) that went on between priests and nuns and everything else. It's a religion of hypocrisy."

Uh huh. I know that there are, like, some folks who... they say they're told to believe the Bible, because they're supposed to believe that. And, if they blindly accept that, that's pretty unintelligent. It seems like it

would also be the same -- unintelligent -- to discredit the Bible, or to discredit the fact that it could be legitimate with legitimate authors -- just by your own feelings.

"All of my beliefs are rooted in science. If I can't see it, or if I can't touch it, or if I don't have proof, it does not exist. I have no faith. I don't believe I have lived before. I will not live again after I die. I am here right now. I am a collection of cells, held together by electronic bonds, and that is it. Nothing more, nothing less. I am two hundred pounds of meat in motion."

Have you ever tried to figure out what holds the electronic bonds together in a cell?

"Well, just because you can't answer every scientific question, doesn't mean that some super-natural force has to be responsible for it. I mean, I think that, in this day and age, my definition of God is attempting to put a face on physics that we have yet to understand. I mean, I don't think anybody is wrong because they believe in God, or they believe in Christ, or they believe in this or that. Everybody's free to think, you know, whatever they want. It has screwed me up, personally, being taught that having sexual thoughts was wrong, that following my nature was wrong. You know, I just think it's (bleep)."

It's pretty much a classic struggle that a lot of people have written about, for sure.

"Well, I tell ya, I think that the struggle is now over. I would say that I still haven't grown out of my teen years -- when I was searching for identity. But now I know who I am. I know what I am. I have

realized that I am no better than any slug under a rock, or any worse than a crab in the sea. I mean, all life forms, to me, are equal. We are all here because of some form of chaos that took ten billion years to come about. I mean, I could have been a hundred trillion other creatures, and the fact that I have two eyes, two legs and two arms is very arbitrary."

Some of the stuff that you've created, stuff that's written in your lyric sheet, or the songs you've created, is a lot of what I would interpret as embracing pain. Do you feel like that's therapeutic, like you've dealt with pain, or do you feel like it's just kind of a release, but the pain is never really...

"Well, I mean, I hate to contradict you, but I certainly do not embrace pain. Contrary to that, I use music as a form of sonic therapy, because -- in this day and age, in a society that castrates men -- I cannot vent my pain on the people that deserve it, because of the consequences; so I have to subliminate it into different forms, so that I don't go to jail, or I don't put somebody in the hospital... because they deserve it. So, I just sit down in my basement and I write these lousy songs and I feel better afterwards."

I appreciate your comment. I guess if I was to rephrase my question, I would say: "Doing that, do you feel like you've resolved some of the hurt, or the pain?"

"I can't say that it's resolved. You know, when somebody screws me over, or somebody takes advantage of me, or destroys my trust, I can never feel good about it, or I can never feel better; but, you know, writing these songs seems to help alleviate some of the pain -- at least temporarily."

What do you see for the future, as far as songs, recording... sound?

"Songs, recording, sound... Well, I have the whole next album written right now and the record company, at this point, wants us to keep touring, because we're making them lots of money. And, like I said earlier, we are certainly making someone rich. And, assuming the album starts to die, sales-wise, I suppose we'll go back into the studio and record what I have written. I think that this next album will be a little more commercially accessible -- and you can also read that as selling out, if you like. Uh, it'll once again be geared towards women, towards paganism, towards, uh, the dark nature of humanity."

What else, besides, maybe, following your urges, attracts you to Paganism?

"Uh, that I feel like it's a part of me. I'm not a practicing pagan, where I like some kind of warlock, or something. I just feel at one with nature. My true holidays are the changing of the

"I don't have any respect for weak philosophies, such as Christianity."

"I will not live again after I die. I am here right now.
I am a collection of cells, held together by electronic
bonds, and that is it. Nothing more, nothing less.
I am 200 pounds of meat in motion."

seasons, to a lesser degree. Every full moon is a holiday for me. It is my nature. It is what makes me happy. And, more than anything else, it is just a feeling that is right to me. You know, I love to go into the woods with my girlfriend and just explore. I like to pick a leaf off and look at it and, you know, wonder about nature; or lie there under the stars and look up at the sky. It's just one of the few things that really makes me happy."

That's cool. What do you think of bands that kind of espouse Satanism, or kinda write about medieval Pagan rituals or whatever, and they're using their music to evangelize for Satan?

"If they're really into it, I guess it's okay, but if they're only doing it just to make heads turn and to make people say, 'Ooh!', then, you know, then I think that it's (bleep), because I think part of this band's success comes from the fact that I write from my heart, and that we all play from our hearts. I think that anybody who tries to put a face on their music or on their band to sell albums, or to become famous, the public's going to realize sooner or later that this is not what the band is about, and they will go nowhere. But, personally, I don't believe in Satan. I don't believe there's any good forces, or any evil forces, so Satanism, to me, is a complete waste of time -- especially when it involves animal sacrifices, because, you know, I really like animals. That gets me really upset when I hear things like that, about, like some drunk and stupid heavy metal (bleep)'s going out to hanging the dog, or some (bleep). I think that a life is precious, and that to take a life is the ultimate sin."

I'm petting the cat on my desk, right now as we talk.

"I wish my cats were

here. I have two of 'em at home. I'm just sittin' here with my feet against the wall, looking out the window, glad that I can still see."

Yeah. We got two cats about a year and a half ago, two sisters out of a litter.

"I got my cats about four years ago. They're a male and a female, brother and sister, but good company and good maintenance. You know, my family loves them, so when I'm away... My parents live upstairs from me, so they take care of 'em, so it worked out well. At least when I go home, someone's happy to see me."

Yeah, that's kinda nice. Well, Heaven's Metal magazine predominantly covers the Christian hard music scene. Most every issue has articles on bands like Tourniquet. We do stuff on Kings X and Galactic Cowboys, too. And every issue, we always dialogue with one band that doesn't fit into that genre, like Megadeth, or Metallica, or Extreme and, this issue: Type O Negative. I guess, from my perspective, I'm a person who went to college and had to question my beliefs and embraced all of my desires at the same time, too... and, just to kind of jump back to what we were talking about: I've had to look at the Bible and answer the question, "Is it valid?" and I looked at it from a scientific viewpoint and have been intellectually satisfied that it's a document written by, like, about 40 different authors. It all pretty much has validity and is backed up. There's not a lot of documents of the same time period that reject or contradict the writings, so I put my faith in it, for the record.

"Well, I'm happy that you put your faith in it and, if it gives you happiness, then that's great. I mean, everyone needs something to believe in. As far

as your readers go, if they're offended by the things that I've said, it was not intentional. It was, you know: 'This is what I think.' I don't go through life trying to change people's minds, or trying to put people down because they don't believe in anything I do. So, when I'm asked a question, I'm gonna answer it honestly, because a person is only as good as their word. If I lie to you or if I lie to someone else, then I'm just a piece of (bleep). I believe your readers, at least, have to respect my honesty."

Yeah, that's kinda what this dialogue is for -- this forum. It's not that we think either of us are gonna change each other's mind, but to kind of be able to express clearly where each other is coming from.

"And I'd just like to point out that most 'rock bands' seem to be anti-Christian, because they seem to hate any kind of authority. And, I think that the Catholic church, or the church in general, is the ultimate authority, because it has no national boundaries. So, it is the most easily attacked. And that does not sit well with me, because I'm the type of person that I can follow rules. You know, I have respect for authority. When I disrespect authority, I do it because I have carefully thought out why I cannot follow this doctrine. I don't go against it, simply because I'm a 30-year-old big baby that cannot follow rules and I have to have my way. I mean, anybody can be an anarchist, because breaking the rules is easy. But, to conform and follow the rules takes real guts. So, I mean, I just want to point out that I'm not jumping on any anti-church bandwagon, you know, just because I'm in a band. I mean, I don't give a (bleep) about other bands. It seems to me the only reason most people join bands is because they can't do anything else with their lives. They're like useless individuals. And I stress the word 'most.' Like, not every person or band is like this; but, most of the bands I know, they're all like wastes of flesh."

My perception of the authority comes from more of a collective thing, whereas, like, these are common held beliefs. Like, we all believe that God is real, that He's Who He says he is, and that the Bible is a good book; versus somebody from Rome, slamming down their fist, saying, "You cannot use condoms anymore," or whatever it is. So, I see it more as kind of the authority comes from... I guess the classic line is the authority comes from God and his Word. And I believe that, and I see that as more of a collective thing that people from every nation can agree in, but it's not like an authority that one person holds, and it's theirs, like in the case of Rome, or whatever.

"I see. That's a valid opinion."

Well, I really appreciate an artist like yourself really going after a type of music with lots of feeling, like your music. I dig what you're doing with the real doomy sounds and this flow of music.

"Well, it seems like anybody with a sensitive bone it their body, seems to like Type O Negative; whereas people that don't have any feelings or, like, just live for the day, just want nothing to do with us, because they can't get anything out of the band. That's fine with me, because we don't want anything to do with them, either."

Well, I appreciate your time, Peter.

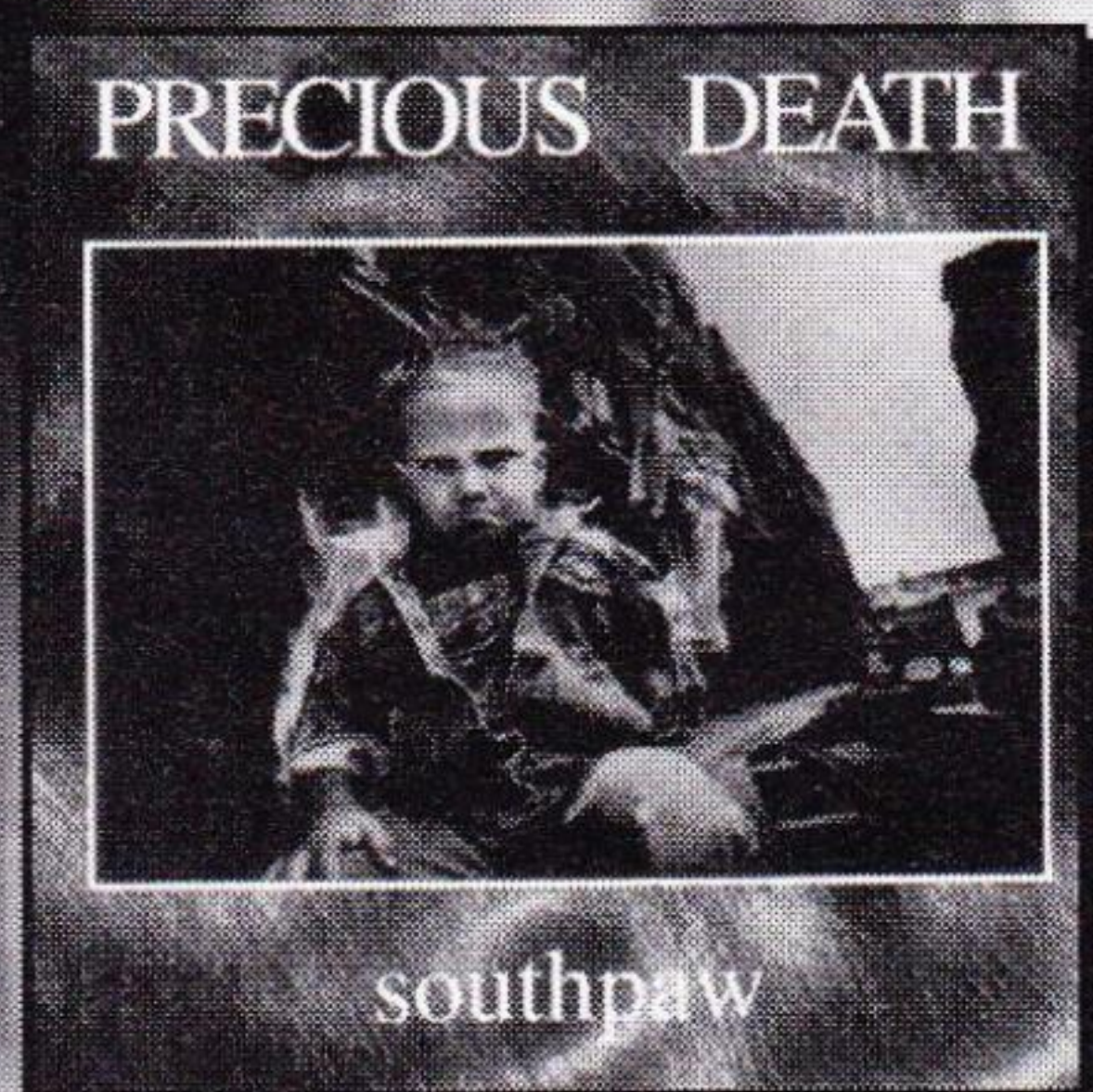
"Likewise."

And I hope to see you soon on the road. Next time you come through Austin, Texas, I'll plan on being there.

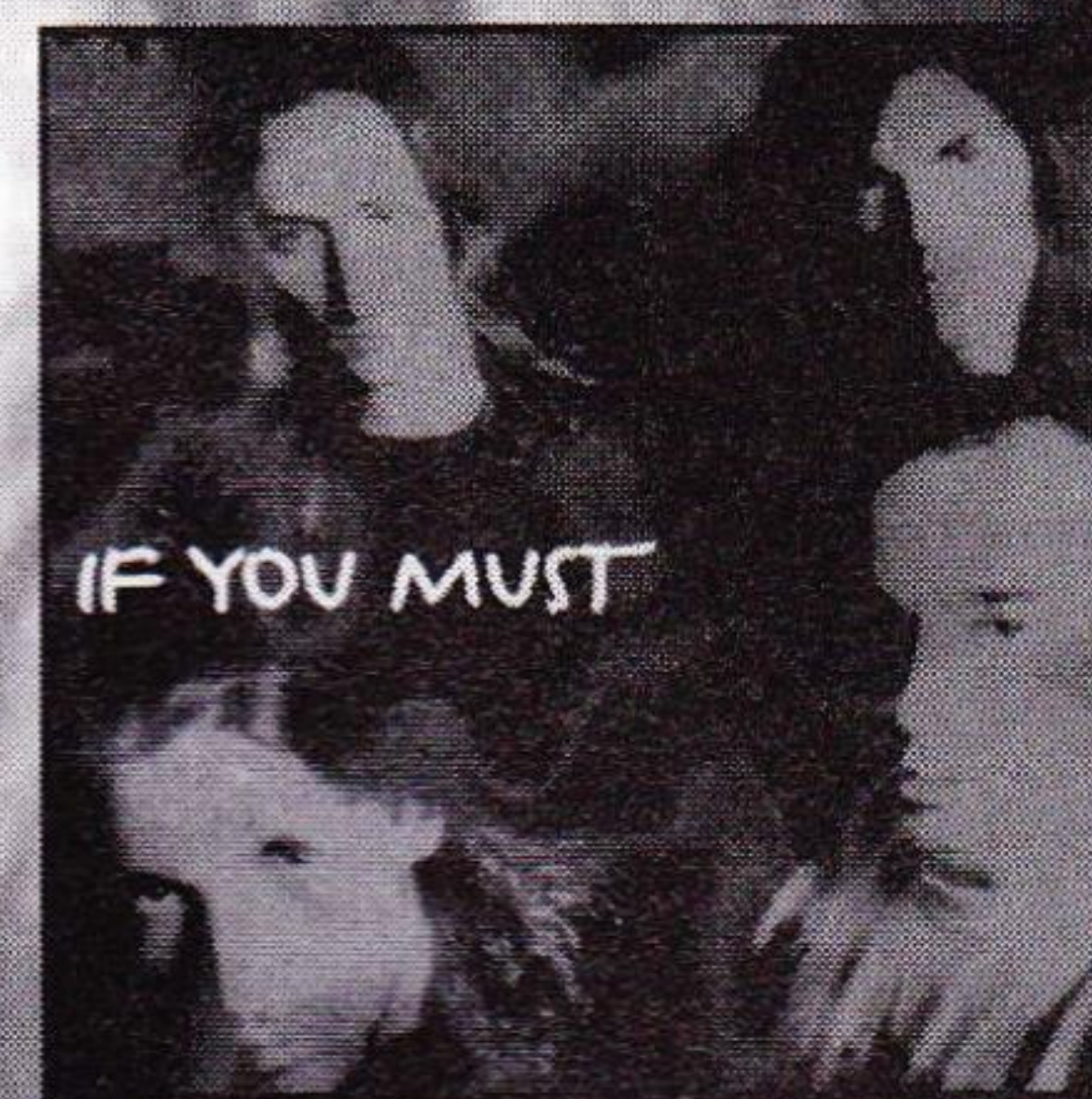
"Like I said earlier, we're supposed to be coming through with Pantera. I don't know if we're playing Austin, but I'm sure I will be going through Texas somewhere. Texas happens to be a real big place, as you know. I'm sure we'll be going through, like, at least Dallas or something like that. Alright. Well, thanks for your time."

You bet. Take it easy. HM

PRECIOUS DEATH



**A BIG THANK YOU TO
ALL P.D. FANS FOR
ANOTHER KILLER YEAR**



TWO DOVE AWARD NOMINATIONS:
Southpaw **METAL ALBUM OF THE YEAR**
"Southpaw" METAL RECORDED SONG OF THE YEAR

METRO ONE 2025 W. Balboa Blvd. 2nd floor Newport Beach, CA 92663 Tel. (714) 673-6701 Fax. (714) 673-6772
E-mail: RBJAM@aol.com Bookings: DLB Management (714) 863-9632 Management: NCI (818) 558-7503
Merchandise: P.O. BOX 668 Lomita, CA 90717-0668 Tel. (310) 539-5673

Photos : Larry Bolen



Concert Reviews

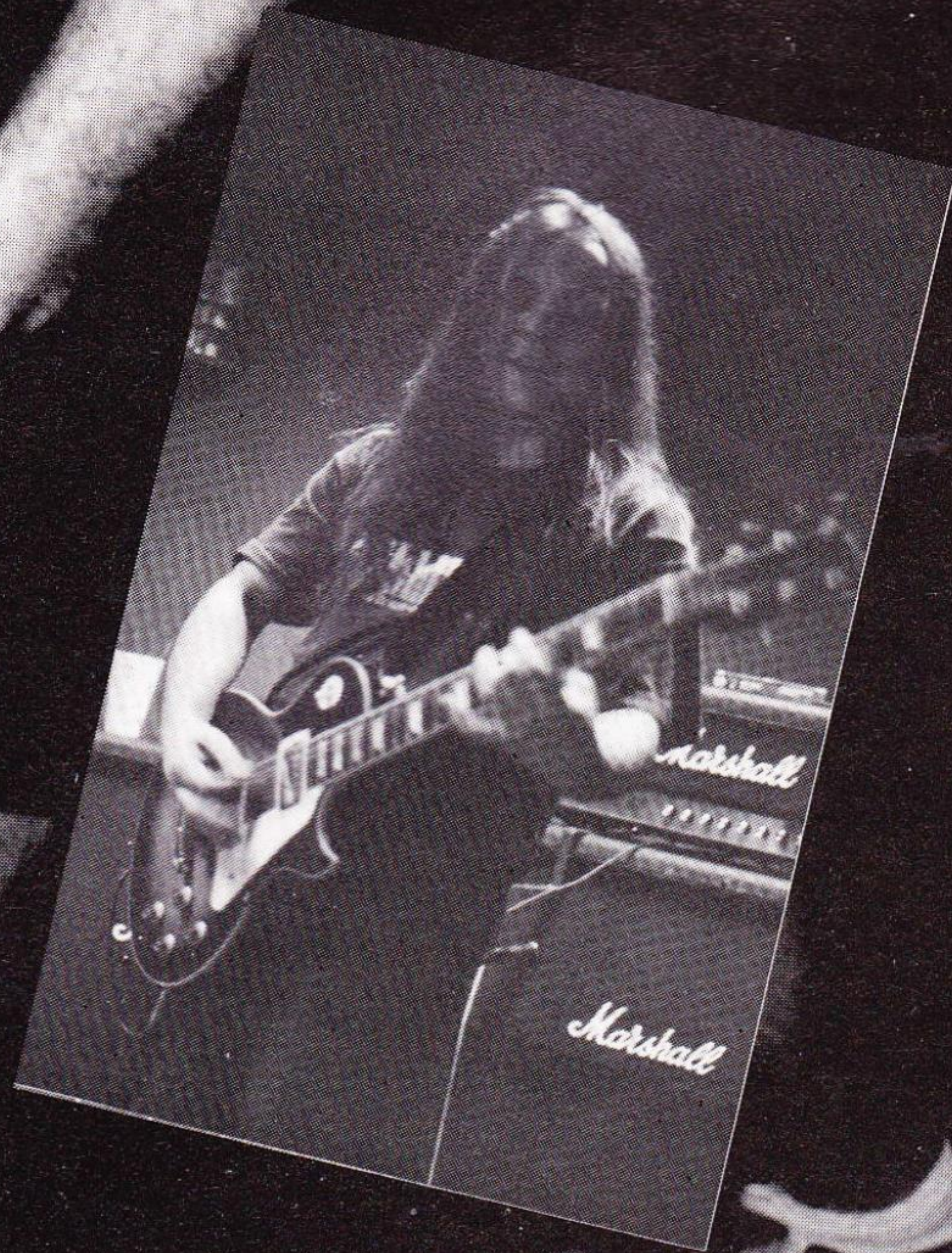
JESUS FREAKS & MORTIFICATION

The arrival of Jesus Freaks and Mortification packed about 60 people into a tiny ballroom the size of a closet in a local Ramada Inn the night of this show. It sounds like a small crowd, but in that room it seemed like a festival if you were close to the stage.

I was very curious to hear the Jesus Freaks, as they have changed personnel twice in the last two years . . . and I sure wasn't expecting what my ears received! Returning to a three-piece band again, this band completely and totally shredded! My jaw was dropping as the band bobbed and weaved through huge, monster grooves and slammed home power chords that were lethal. After two or three chords into one of their new songs, I decided then and there to put these guys on the next available cover when their new album comes out. These guys epitomize what heavy metal is all about right now -- power, noise, distortion, and more power! The best of the new songs, "Reaction," just blew me out of the water. The chunky rhythms pulled off by Keith, the new "Southern boy" from North Carolina, were outstanding. His Les Paul was pulling out pure tones of fat crunch that could start an earthquake. New drummer, Jeff, and old-timer vocalist/bassist Eric kept in the groove all night, as the band blasted through older tunes that never sounded better -- especially "Hypocrite" and "Religion." With the band sounding this

tight, I can't wait to hear what they're gonna churn up in the studio.

Mortification came on next, which was almost anti-climactic for me -- after being totally blown away by the previous set. I was anxious to see, though, how the two new guys from Canada -- Jason Campbell (guitar) and Bill Rice (drums) -- would perform. While they made a few minute mistakes during the set, it was hardly noticeable. These guys have just gotten a little bit heavier. While not the total aural onslaught of some of their early records, the drums were really good. And Jason's jumping around with his guitar and shaved head give the band a whole new image (this part of their show will be missed, as he stopped being in...



Jason Campbell (Photo: Darryl C. Dunn)
INSET: Keith, new Jesus Freak guitarist

the band shortly after the tour). Due to the fact that there was no stage whatsoever didn't stop Steve Rowe from connecting to the audience, as he stood atop a gear box to address the crowd. The new songs they unleashed on us, like "Gut Wrench," had a definite hardcore groove slant to them that made 'em delectable. They definitely primed the audience to feast on their *Primitive Rhythm Machine* album when it's released.

Because this concert was so good, I bet the small crowd of people that travelled from Mexico to see it weren't disappointed. Besides, it's always great to hear bands play like they mean it, which these two proved this night.

--Doug Van Pelt

BARREN CROSS

On March 25 Barren Cross wasted no time letting their audience (and the entire 10,000 residents in the town) know that they were back with a vengeance. The BC boys played an invitation only private party in the beautiful hills of Scotts Valley, California to a select crowd of dedicated hardcore Barren Cross fans. So hardcore, in fact, that this occasion was actually a birthday party for one of the fans -- the band being hired by the man's wife! What a gift! I'm sure people have gotten BC albums for their birthday, maybe even some BC tickets, but Dave Carava of Scotts Valley got Barren Cross themselves -- thanks to his wife Alma, and the cooperation of Barren Cross' management company, IM-PACT.

The concert took place on a scenic hillside overlooking the valley below. The band

played a formal set of nine classic BC tunes, took a break, and came back with an informal set. The mountain thundered to the concert's opening drive of "Rattle Your Cage," and made an impressive tight turn around into "Bigotry Man." After a short hello and welcome by the band, the boys wasted no time proving their ability to pull off the new tunes live, with "Here I Am" -- complete with all live backing vocals and that classic live Barren Cross sound that we have been deprived of the past five years. The old and the new had no problem mixing in the live show as the band effortlessly traveled through time back to "Imaginary Music" and then ahead to "Somewhere Far Away," "Time For Love" and "Your Will." Before closing out the set with "Close To The Edge," the gang sprang a special surprise on its audience and pulled out the classic tune "It's All Come True For You," and blew the dust off

of it. This was the first time the song had been played live in about eight years.

At the request of the Scotts Valley Police Department, the band turned down their second set, an informal run through the Barren Cross classics "Stage Of Intensity," "Out Of Time," "Let It Go, Let It Die" and "Light The Flame." One of the night's highlights saw drummer Steve Whitaker turn the drums over to birthday boy Dave for a crowd-pleasing rendition of "State Of Control."

No doubt about it. The boys are back and better than ever. Five years away has only served to mature the ability of these fine musicians and develop an even deeper commitment to Christ and the things of His kingdom. Only fly-in dates are planned for the band this year, so if Barren Cross gets within a couple hundred miles of your home town, don't you miss them! The past five years have been good to these guys, and they will blow you away!

--Paul Doty



ENCOURAGING QUESTIONS ... NOT REACTIONS

Call or write for catalog
Dealer inquires encouraged
1435 N. Cuyamaca St., El Cajon, CA 92020
Ph. (619) 449-8183 Fax (619) 449-0515

RANSOM
ORIGINAL SOUL WEAR
SINCE Ø A.D.

ALBUM REVIEWS

MORTIFICATION *Primitive Rhythm Machine*

Intense

Those who thought this band was mellowing out after *Blood World's* excursions into classic metal, are in for a treat! Having added a hardcore groove to its rhythm section, the band sounds heavier than ever. Steve Rowe reverts back to a vocalization that's more in tune with his grindcore past, although somewhat flavored with a Sepultura sneer/grunt delivery. Tunes like "Providence," although featuring a classic metal vocal delivery in the bridge sounds like it could've been on any of the band's first three albums. "Mephibosheth" and the title track display this new power groove direction with a metal muscle that's savage. Some of the tunes, like "Toxic Shock," are performed with a Believer-

like technical edge and tightness -- including that Bachman-style vocal delivery.

You can still see a classic metal influence in the riffing in tunes like "Toxic Shock" and "4031." The title track is a discourse on the whole "God hates rock music" controversy. One point brought up that is cool, says, "God created the jungle beat." Who's to say that God doesn't love the same style of music that demons apparently like?

"4031" is an interesting song, lyrically, as it expounds on the verse Isaiah 40:31.

When the album is done playing, it's apparent that you've been hit with a massive aural onslaught. Mortification has produced its best album to date. By the way, ex-Deliverance axeman George Ochoa co-produced this album with

Mister Steve Rowe.

--Doug Van Pelt

THE PRAYER CHAIN *Mercury*

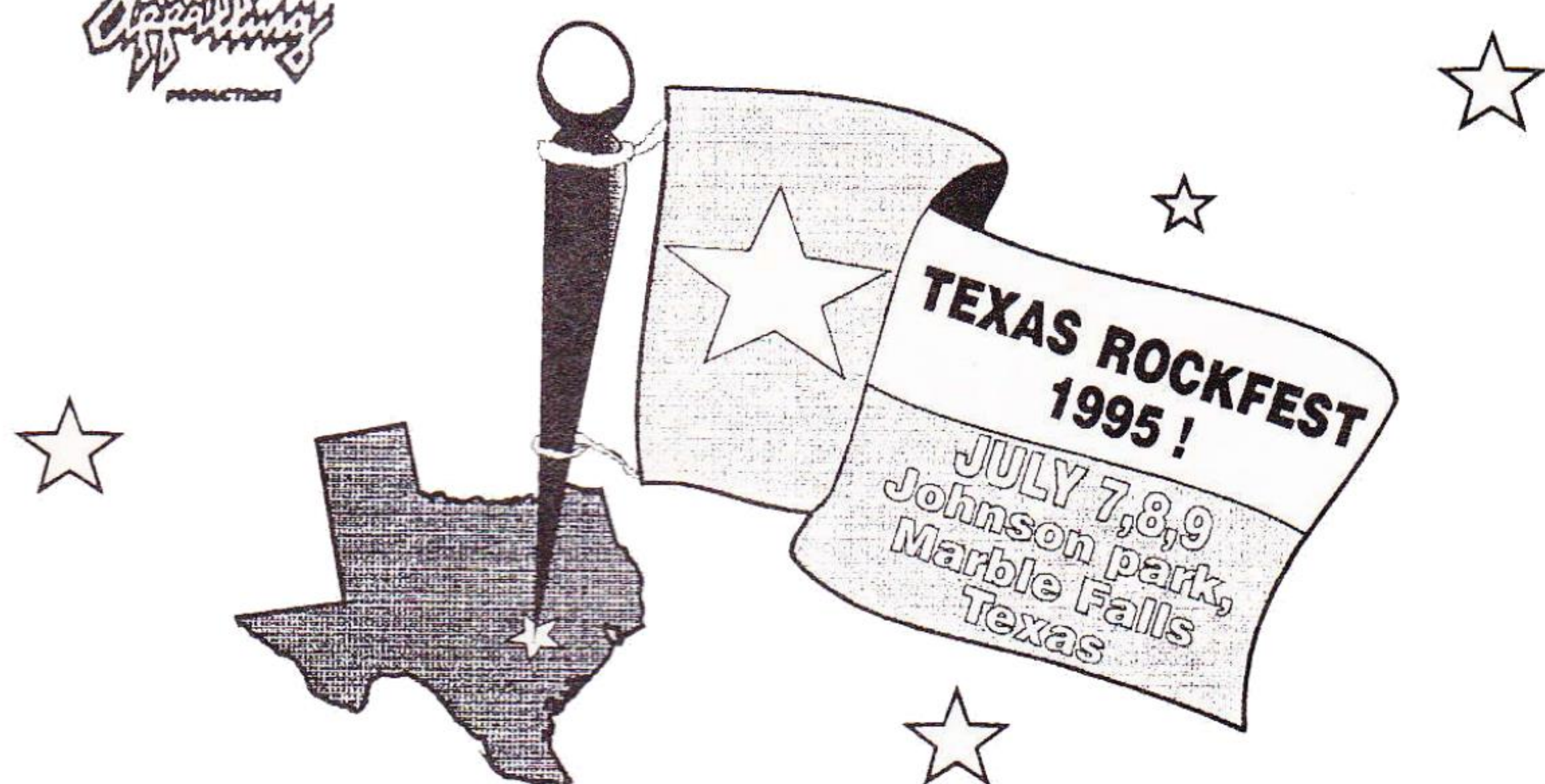
Rode Dog/Reunion

Here we have a very strong third effort from the Prayer Chain. The album begins with a track called "Humb," which seems to last forever. This track is a dramatic, perhaps ominous sounding, prologue, readying the listener for a gratifying alternative experience. This band has been a leader among Christian alternative bands, and this Steve Hindalong (the Choir) produced disc proves why. While remaining true to its original genre, *Mercury* is somewhat more dreamy than past Prayer Chain offerings, reminding me of anything but the troublesome car of the same name I once owned. At times, the bass guitar drones so low, I could swear James Earl Jones is humming along. This album is not all mellow, though. There are heavy tracks, many of which seem to be rather slow, yet nonetheless, heavy. I guess a good word would be "emotional." This album is not some plastic, "get every note right" piece of glam merchandise. Yet, the musicianship is exceptional. I was, and am continuing to be impressed. Nice piece, guys!

--Brian Vincent McGovern

to play *Frail* for five minutes to realize that there are quite a few changes since last summer's release of *21*. For one thing, the only members left of last year's edition of The Blamed are drummer Jim Chaffin (yes, he is the guy from the Crucified) and guitarist/vocalist Bryan Gray. New vocalist Jeremy Moffet (ex-drummer for Deliverance) and bassist Gary Ottosi replace the now-departed Eric Churchill, Aaron Bradford, and formerly, Jake Landrau.

Though this album is musically quite diverse throughout its 11 very solid tracks, it would be safe to say that, generally the sound is more refined, and can be much thrashier and aggressive at times. There are some traces of *21's* raw punk sound in a few songs; though, unlike *21*, the studio chatter and the feedback are really nowhere to be found on *Frail*. The album opens with "Feeding the Ignorant," in which one can definitely hear the Crucified influence. Variations in style can be seen in tracks like "Prove your Excuse" and "Tom," which may be regarded as some of the lighter songs as they begin, but don't let that fool you -- they can speed up pretty fast. Then there are the real crunchy tunes like "Guy in a Suit and The Pope" (yes, the old Crucified tune) and "Declaration Dead," in which the Blamed are just blistering. Musically and lyrically intense, these two tracks really kick! Bryan Gray shows that he can let his guitar rip when he wants to. Overall, the rhythm and intensity in all the songs is very, very impressive! Moffet's ability to change his vocal delivery (i.e. in the tune "Breeze," which is one of the more melodic tracks on *Frail*) at the drop of a hat, fits hand in glove with the updated sound (is the man gifted with a set of lungs, or what?! Check out the track



Friday, July 7th Saturday, July 8th Sunday, July 9th

RICHIE L. NOT EVEN BEHEADED NOISE PRIEST DECISION-D ONE BAD PIG 2:00 pm - 9:30 pm	PURGE EX-NIHILO GOD FEAR SLAMCAT DECISION-D 1:30 pm - 9:30 pm	PAROUSIA SOCIETAL JIVE ELECTRIC RANGERS IRON FAITH SIGN OF THE TIMES Featuring JEFF SCHEETZ 1:30 pm - 9:30 pm
---	---	---

Worship at full volume!
Sun. 11am

Parking Picnic Area Camping & Hotels Available

For Information
Call: 512-264-2994
Donations Only

THE BLAMED *Frail*

Tooth & Nail

Imagine this: A band releases an album in the middle of one year, only to have their sophomore release early in the next year, with a major line-up change and a different sound . . . and both albums are exceptional! Is this possible? If you've heard The Blamed's *Frail*, You would probably agree that it certainly is possible.

One would only have



RARE MEMORABILIA FOR SALE!

Robert Sweet's custom painted 30" Tympani drum from the "To Hell with the Devil around the world twice tour" seen in the "Calling On You", "Free" & "Honestly" videos.

Robert Sweet's "In God We Trust" album cover outfit (Yellow & Black suspender outfit with Stryper logos all over) as worn in the "Always There For You" video.

Stryper full color 4'x6' photo Billboard used to promote Stryper's 1984 one-&-only concert ever at The Roxy on Sunset Strip. Autographed by Robert Sweet.



PLUS MANY MORE ITEMS!
Autographed Drumsticks, Promo Posters, RARE Vinyl, Cassettes & CDS from Around The World!

All Personal Items Were Purchased Direct From the Band. None of this is Michael's Missing Property!

CALL 513.866.1236 (Serious Inquiries Only!)

Also rare memorabilia on Holy Soldier, Barren Cross, Guardian and Many other Christian Rock-n-Roll Artists!

... more of the same? ABSOLUTELY!

SAME VISION,
SAME OWNER,
SAME COMMITMENT,
MORE OF THE SAME
GREAT GUITARS
FOR 15 YEARS!

Classic Maple
FROSTED MARBLE

The Fifty
MAPLE TOP T
Ninety
Primera
RT Classic

TY
T-A-B-O-R
Signature Model



Zion
guitar technology

FOR MORE DETAILS AND A NEW FULL COLOR BROCHURE: SEND \$3.00 TO:

ZION GUITAR TECHNOLOGY / USA 2606-404 PHOENIX DRIVE
GREENSBORO, NC 27403 PHONE 910.852.7603 FAX 910.852.1889

EUROPEAN SALES: ZION / EUROPA 20 GERBERGASSEN, CH - 4001
BASEL, SWITZERLAND TELEPHONE 41.61.261.0788 FAX 41.61.261.0733

All Models Available With

Joe Barden Pickups

AMERICAN MADE GUITARS

NEW

CLASH
⊕
SYMBOLS

FULL-LENGTH ALBUM

*Begging At The
Temple Gate
Called Beautiful*

DUE IN MAY
ON BRAINSTORM

Distributed by Diamante

CLASH ⊕ SYMBOLS

Sunday is



an altogether different proposition

AVAILABLE
THROUGH
TRUE TUNES
(800) 669-TRUE
OR AT YOUR LOCAL
CHRISTIAN MUSIC
RETAILER.

CORRESPONDENCE: (714) 771-4291



Mike Stand Robert Corneil Matthew Chapman Steve Latanation

IT'S FINALLY HERE! THE WAITED RELEASE BY:

Preacher

"WELCOME TO FOREVER"

SOUNDS LIKE:

MEGADETH - METALLICA - TESTAMENT

TASTES LIKE:

The Word of God

FOR THOSE WHO ARE TIRED OF BEING
RELIGIOUS AND ARE READY FOR SPIRITUAL
RENEWAL BY GOD'S SPIRIT

**CASSETTE - \$ 7.00 + \$1.50 S&H
COMES WITH LYRICS!**

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: TONY BLOCK
P.O. BOX 92
KENDALL MI. 49062-0092

"Weakness").

As one listens to *Frail*, he/she may notice that the track "For You" sounds awfully familiar. That's because it was on last year's *Helpless Amongst Friends* compilation album. However, if you were to compare the two versions, you would notice some slight differences in sound and vocals.

The Blamed have always been impressive in terms of their lyrical content and presentation. *Frail* is no exception, as the lyrics are blatantly up-front and personal. These guys aren't ashamed of Jesus Christ, and it shows in their challenging and thought-provoking words song after song. 'Nuff said. The album speaks for itself. Give it a spin.

--Jeremy Choi

HOI POLLOI *Happy Ever After* Via

This band has undergone an attitude adjustment. These transplanted Kiwi's sound like they're not trying to please the Christian A/C radio people anymore. They sound like they don't mind scaring people away with their loud music. Maybe it's the on-edge lyrics they're writing. Vocalist Jenny Gullen throws barbs out there, like "You wear rejection like a wreath around your neck..." The emotions hit full-tilt in "Falling Down," where the ugly subject of child abuse gets a dramatic rendering:

"Hush, little girl, for your night has come

Don't dare breathe when the light goes on

He holds her lips until he stifles her cry

And she's sinking

And he's whispering, 'I love you,' in a cold respite

As daddy's little darling is praying to die."

Whoa! This haunting song is full of raw, dark passion. But don't think the whole album is a downer. I'm reminded of another edgy female-fronted release that just hit (Fleming & John), as this beautiful and clean voice flies atop some gritty and atmospheric guitars. Love those guitars! They chime and ring in your head in the opening cut, while they hum and rattle in other tunes. Then there's the cool 'n' low throbbing bass and tight drumming. Hoi Polloi is still very accessible, but what a difference distortion and attitude make! Sometimes the groove is real simple and modern rock sounding, but there's energy in almost every tune.

--DV

NEON CROSS *Torn*

Rugged Records

This is a band that needed a real comeback effort. In fact, after hearing the three Neon Cross tunes on *Premium Cuts*, I was preparing to write my first negative review of a Rugged Records project, which would've tarnished its perfect batting record. Well, these old metal warriors have dusted off their instruments and dug deep into their heavy metal roots to emerge with a serving of that Seattle stuff that's so popular today.

The opening cut, "Bitterness," finds vocalist David Reeves lettin' everybody know how he feels, with his impassioned delivery. The only drawback is the riff to the song is identical to the mainstream hit "Outshined" by Soundgarden.

The next cut, "Spinning," seems to find the band looking fondly back at their debut album, which is a mistake. That boogie riff and high nasally vocal delivery remind me of what I didn't like about early NC. The choruses try to salvage the song with retro/grunge bgv's, but it's too

late. I've already hit the skip button.

This kind of trade-off between raw, dirty and passionate modern rock and the heavy metal wailing of the past take place throughout the record, revealing several hits, as well as a few moments to miss. Some of the highlights are departures from this, like: the acoustic and Zeppelin-esque "Change;" and the Skid Row/Bon Jovi (?) story ballad called "81," which features some sweet guitar tones. Other notables are: "Video Smut," with a weird bgv chorus and killer groove throughout; and "Now," which lets Reeves' voice carry the song.

Overall, like the album's title, I'm torn between the half I like and the other half I don't.

--DV

PLANK EYE

I don't know if you've noticed, but punk has gotten huge. Bands like Offspring and The Flaming Lips, with their quirky yet infectious pop melodies and stripped down, raw delivery, are taking over the radio waves. Here comes Plank Eye with a smash follow-up to their forgettable debut.

Most of the music lays back in a groove, making for an enjoyable listen. Reminds me somewhat of Asight Unseen. You hear cool, Smashing Pumpkins-like grooves in "Open House" and a throbbing, plodding groove in "Tonight."

These guys could be huge.

--Spiney Norman

FLEMING & JOHN *Delusions of Grandeur* R.E.X.

I don't know about you, but it always bugs me a little when critics and label people act ga-ga over someone. I almost want to not like it, simply because I don't trust hype very much. This album, though, has that special quality called "greatness" all over it.

While it's not the

next Stryper or the next Vengeance, or the next Crucified, or the next Circle of Dust, it is a unique and high-quality creation that welds the beautiful, alternatively tuned voice of Fleming McWilliams atop the quirky, and often aggressive guitar playing of John Mark Painter -- thus the name Fleming & John.

After about 25 listens (it's addictive!), the songs start to engrave their identity into your brain. That dreamy high-voice child inside of us wants to sing along whenever we think of the chorus to the title track. The punky aggression of "I'm Not Afraid" shows the band's unwillingness to be like everyone else and just make money doing pop music. This angle is so cool, it might make money and stay true to itself at the same time.

Due to its originality and pop penchant, these tunes might evoke negative reactions from heavy mongers and "safe" music fans alike. It definitely doesn't leave a lot of room to

be nonchalant about 'em. You'll either hate it and it'll get on your nerves, or it'll tickle that place in your musical palette that you didn't even know was there. I'm sorry, but the hype is right. If you liked the cover of "It's Harder to Believe Than Not To" from the Steve Taylor Tribute album, you'll love this record.

--DV

ARGYLE PARK *Misguided* R.E.X.

Okay, you heard "Drive, He Said" on the Steve Taylor Tribute album; now Argyle Park debuts a whole album's worth of weirdness. Those of you who may have guessed that there's a Circle of Dust connection, and that it's going to sound like Circle, are way off base. Although some tunes rage with a frenzied speed metal thrash attack, most of the album deals in the techno/dance arena. There's also some soundtrack stuff as

well. At times, you feel like you're in a heavy rave, and at others, you're at the Haunted Mansion at Disneyland.

Some of the cool, intense moments include guest artists. On "Headscrew," King (Mark) Solomon handles the vocals. On "Skin Shed," Tommy Victor of Prong. "Leave Me Alone" features Lauren Bequette from Mortal rip-offs Drown.

Diversity is the code word on this album (as is "hidden bonus tracks"), but the incessant techno beats keep me from diggin' in deeper. When the guitars do come a ringin' though, I open the door wide.

-- SN

FELL VENUS @ Via

Even though Fell Venus pulls a Prince and calls their album "@," they still crank out some great music. As fellow HM music freak Charles Gates puts it: "The

drum loops and sequences stay in the back and the live instruments come up front (real drums 'n' stuff!) This is a guitar groove album, dude!

This album crosses over the dance and metal and hardcore and, yes, industrial genres and satisfies each of 'em. Tunes like "Nice Guy" reek with passion as Mr Venus screams about being too blind to see it, too black to believe it.

The grooves built in here make you wanna move 'n' mosh 'n' just plain freak. Some of the more contemplative moments, like "Penance," still carry some Henry Rollins-type anger and drama. "Hate Disease" has an unforgettable groove, with trippy confessional BGV's of "I've got it" changing up to the intensity every so often.

This is new and different, but I'll be hornswaggled if it ain't great to listen to! And you'll love playing track #27 over and over again to your cool friends.

-- DV

ANNOUNCING THE NEW RELEASE FROM CMI RECORDING ARTIST'S **SMASH ALLEY UNDERGROUND** RISING FROM THE SHADOWS



The Year was 1991. CMI Records Began It's Quest for the Most Explosive Underground Musicians On Earth To Form The Ultimate Live Band ... WITNESS THE RESULTS!

SINK YOUR TEETH INTO THE RAW POWER OF THE LONG AWAITED CMI "DREAM TEAM" BAND!

- Available in Stores, by Mail, or at Shows. CD's - \$12.99 Cassette - \$9.99 or get the Action-packed Video featuring Tour Bus Interviews, Outrageous Live Concert Footage, & Backstage Band History for \$19.99 - add \$3 shipping (\$5 Foreign Orders).

Make Check Payable to: CMI RECORDS, P.O. Box 25187, Winston-Salem, NC 27114-5187. Order more than \$29 by mail and receive a Free Poster! (Band at Bus)

Tour Shirt - \$14.99 Poster/Pin-up Book - \$4.99. Also ask for Catalog of S.A.U. Caps, Calendars, Stickers, Buttons, Patches, Key Rings, Laminated Roadie Passes and much more ...



S.A.U. has Fan Clubs World-Wide Via Underground Connections & "Zines"

• Send S.A.S.E. to the Fan Club Nearest to You for Info:

- Texas S.A.U. Fan Club, P.O. Box 127, Canyon, TX 79015
- California Fan Club, P.O. Box 1057, Lower Lake, CA 95457
- Florida Fan Club, P.O. Box 1004, Gonzalez, FL 32560
- New York J. Harding #91A6597, FCF Box 1245, Beacon, NY 12508

• Also ask for the Addresses of The S.A.U. Fan Clubs in AL, MO, NC, NJ, NM, PA, SC, VA, Japan, Germany, Russia, Switzerland, Philippines, Sweden, Netherlands, Romania, Chili, South America, Costa Rica, Central America & More ...

- Call MTV & Local Radio to request the song "Back Alley Shadows"
- Make enlarged copies from this page to pass out flyers near you
- S.A.U. Will Be Packing Venues World-Wide and is Constantly Seeking Additional Top-Notch Management. Send references to CMI.

MICHIGAN MOSH "95"

SAT. & SUN. MAY 27TH & 28TH
MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
12:00 NOON TO 2AM. BOTH DAYS
SPARTA HIGH, SPARTA MI.
TOTALLY INDOORS!!

ACCOMMODATIONS, MAPS, ANY OTHER STUFF
CALL FOR MORE INFO. 810-773-3361
GET ON THE MAILING LIST!!!!

"MAINSTAGE"

TOURNIQUET
CRASHDOG
DELIVERANCE
P.O.D.
INFINITIA
ENGINEERING MORONS
BREATH OF LIFE (EX-DATE HORROR)
CEPHAS
JUNNO JANAI
CRIMSON GLOW (EX-CEVCAPIPI)
STRONGARM
NONPOINT FACTOR
CRIMSON THORN
EXTERNAL DECEASE
JESUS FREAKS
FOUR LIVING CREATURES
AETURNUS
BONES OF ADAM

"ACOUSTIC"

GLENN KAISER
THE CROSSING
JASON UNDERGROUND
GLORIOUS THUNDER
ED ENGLERTH
BLUES GRASS BOYS
ROGER MOD
JAN KRIST
MICHELLE DENEEN

"SEMINARS"

JERRY FENNELL
MARK HODGES
STEVE REID

PHOTO ENTITLED
"MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL"
BY LAURIE WILSON

FOR VENDOR SPACE, AND MERCHANDISING INFO. OR TO PURCHASE A COPY OF
TICKET SALES CHARGED BY PHONE...1-800-521-0290.
OR SEND PAYMENT PAYABLE TO: MICHIGAN MOSH, P.O. BOX 325,
GRANDVILLE MI. 49468-0325

DON'T KNOW

Tooth and Nail

Ever wonder what some of the Blenderhead guys do when they're not blending heads? Don't Know. That's right -- Don't Know. What a cool name! Lest you think said bands are clones, I'll tell you that Don't Know sounds somewhat less angry, even a little silly. It does have a typical Tooth and Nail west coast altno-punk (what?) type sound. What can one say about the song, "59, 79, 99," (a two-minute hard funk Taco Bell commercial)? Fun. "Cheese Whiz Craze" uses 70's style rap which groovily tells the listener about the microwavable dairy product. Furthermore, fans of Dighayzoose, Hot Pink Turtle, One Bad Pig, and, of course, Blenderhead should get into this album.

There are many bands who tend to over-spiritualize and sometimes simply try to impress people with tall piles of Biblical knowledge. That's why I like Don't Know. They are real people, and they don't seem to be trying for any other

titles than those of "real people." It's evident that they're not afraid to utilize humor in their art, which is to be commended.

--BVM

THREE CROSSES

Benson

When I was back in high school, there were very few bands I enjoyed more than the screaming melodic metal of UFO and The Scorpions. One of those few bands was Blackfoot, who penned some great songs in a fun, yet blistering Southern Rock style. I think one of the reasons was the "fun factor." The monster groove riffs always seemed to bring grins to my face, rather than guitar-hero sneers.

When I noticed that Barry Beckett, a veteran of Lynyrd Skynyrd, was producing Three Crosses, I got very excited. The last two good Christian bands I've heard in this category were Jacksonville, Florida's Vision and Messiah Experience from last year's "New Talent Stage" at Cornerstone. Three Crosses has

the "fun factor" inherent in Southern Rock, but they let me down in the energy and "Rock Richter Scale" categories. You old Skynyrd fans will relate to this comparison: Three Crosses sound more like "Tuesday's Gone" than "Saturday Night Special." Although the band has come away with a nice, sonically-appealing album, the guys never care to shift into overdrive and let it all hang out. They do predecessors like The Allman Brothers right with their easy-going ballads and sweet slide playin', though. It's hard to knock the album's content; it's just the direction that bugged me.

The album's opener, "I Should Have Known," showcases the band's strengths well. The rhythm section is tight and out of the way, leaving room for the vocals, organ and slide guitar to fight it out. "Sign Of The Times" treads the midwest/delta waters of a John Mellencamp tune, but the vocal delivery sounds uncannily like the late Mark Heard spittin' out the lyrics about this nation's woes. The band does a little honky tonkin' in "The Devil Ain't Got No Hold," which sounds like it might be a real barn-burner in concert. Them ivories get a real ticklin' workout -- if ya know what I mean.

Hopefully, thanks to the band's influences, we'll see Three Crosses crank it up some more on subsequent releases.

--DV

LUXURY

Amazing and Thank You

Tooth & Nail

Typically, Tooth & Nail releases have offered quite a diversity of hard music. From the grungy Seattle sound of Wish for Eden, to the recent hardcore delivery of the Blamed, the sound of Tooth & Nail CD's has been heavy and the vocals in-your-face. As with every thing else, there are always exceptions. And it just so happens that Luxury's current offering, *Amazing and Thank You*, is one of those exceptions.

Don't start getting the wrong idea, though. Luxury is anything but wimpy. This release by the four man band, consisting of lead vocalist Lee Bozeman, guitarist Jamey Bozeman, bassist Chris Foley, and drummer Glenn Black, produce a sound which may be understood as being musically akin to Starflyer 59 entree (sans the wall of distortion), garnished with pinches of the Smiths. Engineered by Chris Colbert (Fluffy) and produced by Steve Hindalong (The Choir), *Amazing and Thank You* is served up with a style which may be classified as a cross between alternative and melodic punk.

Firing up the ol' CD player and

slapping in *Amazing and Thank You*, we are greeted with "Pink revenge" and "South," two of the more groovy songs on the CD. "South" is musically awesome; there's something for everybody on this one: great rhythm, finely stretched vocals, and the mesmerizing tambourine, which begins the track and essentially does not stop until the song finishes. In all ten tracks, from start to finish, Bozeman injects a large amount of energy and emotion into his vocal delivery. The results are felt by the listener.

After two songs, the listener is offered "Champagne" (no, this release does not come with a complimentary bottle), a very mellow ballad which may leave the listener dazed, relaxed, or totally depressed. At points, Bozeman's voice fades into a faint almost whisper-like delivery to the backdrop of a bluesy guitar and a soft drum, which may leave a very hypnotic impression on the listener. Other ballads include "I Know What You Think About Me," which sounds like modern version of a dreamy, romantic tune found at a 1950's high-school prom, though the track ends abruptly, which may send many listeners scurrying to their CD players bellowing, "Hey, what happened to the song?"

Lyrically, *Amazing and Thank You* addresses varied topics, though the theme of romance seems to permeate throughout most of the songs. For instance, in the title track, the vocalist croons "But give me your hand and I'll have your heart," and in "Solid Gold," Bozeman sings, "wedding bells are here again and the weight of love to entertain again..."

Amazing and Thank You is a release which will captivate you, entertain you, and make you dream. In the hectic world in which we live, Luxury has provided a musically refreshing and emotionally-charged CD, which will be enjoyed over and over again by many.

--JC

MAD AT THE WORLD

The Dreamland Cafe

Alarma

Remember Jellyfish, that mainstream band that took bubbly psychedelic pop music to a new extreme? It was kind of a tongue-in cheek exaggeration of Sergeant Pepper era Beatles. The vocals take a breath by breath cadence that's almost child-like. The guitars are jangly and the drums are very solid. This is Mad At The World's style. While very trippy, repeated listenings reveal the lack of heaviness as the melodies become more prominent.

"Still a Way to Heal," "Living in

the Shadows," and the title track have some plodding moments that build, but the overall sound is dreamy, very dreamy.

--DV

ETERNAL DECISION

These guys know how to create dramatic effect and a crunchin' rhythm. The vocals sound okay, but the vocal lines chosen sometimes show weak spots. Otherwise, this is a very fine 'n' heavy slab of music. Imagine musical influences of Megadeth, Metallica, and early Maiden. These guys don't let up for three songs here, making one wish for more. To order, send \$5 to: P.O. Box 892891, Oklahoma City, OK 73189.

--DV

WARFARE

This trio from Connecticut have released an 8-song tape of melodic hard rock with praise and preachin' lyrics. The sound is akin to early Daniel Band -- ballads with a heavy rhythm section and tasty leads. The leads vocals, though, hold the band back a bit from really pleasing the ears. They sure can play, though. Maybe if they brought in a killer vocalist... For ordering info, write: P.O. Box 13, Canterbury, CT 06331.

--DV

OCKHAM'S RAZOR

Hey, a band named after an Adam Again song can't be all that bad, eh? (Actually, OcKham's Razor is a quote that reads, "The truth is red ink.") Although nothing like the funky sounds of AA, this band puts across a quality melodic sound. I would classify these four songs as jazz influenced rock with some occasional distorted guitar. Original, but the vocals are a detriment to the overall sound. For ordering info, write: 523 Valleyview NW, Canton, Ohio 44708.

--DV

SACRED CURSE

Wow! This band comes screaming out of the speakers with some tight progressive rock! Imagine a heavier Dream Theatre with no vocals. This trio of John Sullivan (guitar), Rusty Ragan (bass), and Matt Gentry (drums) pound out a meaty serving of instrumental rock. Using Galatians 3:13, as their main inspiration, they also have a sense of humor, as the title "Onur Nerves" indicates.

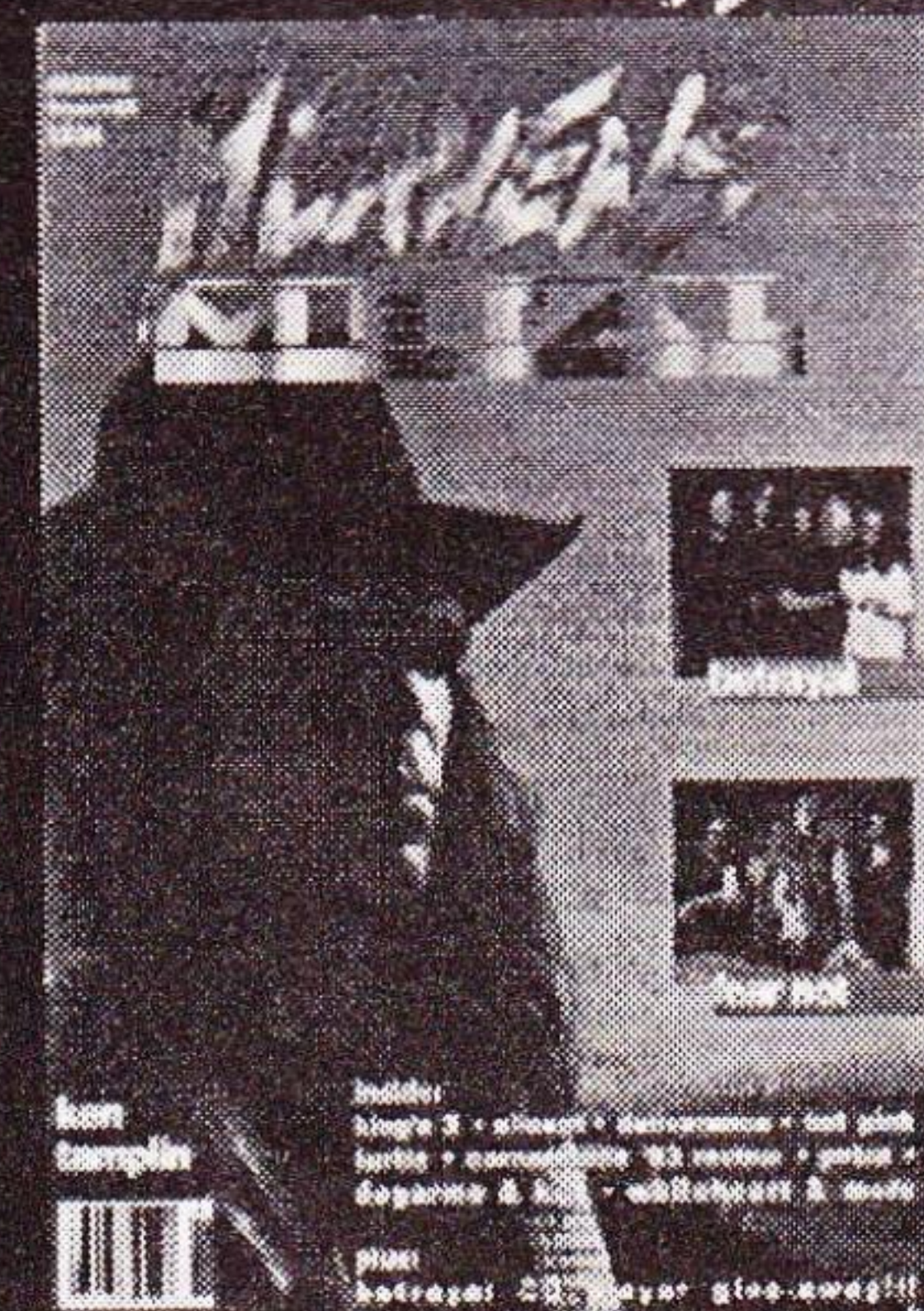
What else can I say, but these guys totally shred. This digalog cassette does fine jamming sonic justice, too. To order, send \$10 to P.O. Box 93033, Albuquerque, NM 87109.

--DV

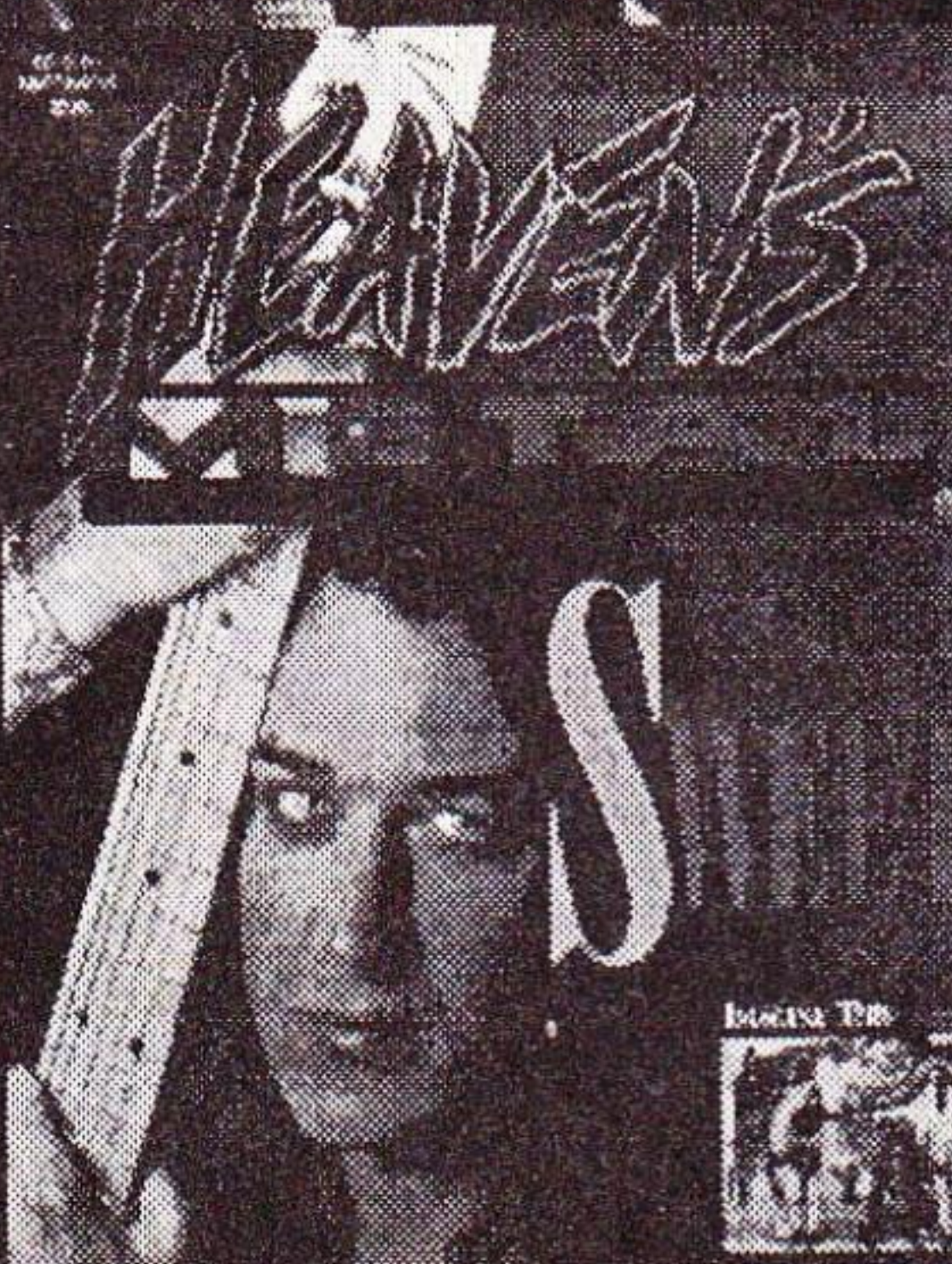
BACK ISSUES... YOUR LINK TO THE PAST

#32

Also Featuring:



#43



#46



#52

\$3.50 EACH

**SEE TRADING POST
FOR COMPLETE LISTING
AND AIR MAIL POSTAGE**

SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE

This aptly named punk band sent me their latest demo recorded over a Saint - Times End cassette! The lead-off track, "Taco Bell Girl," tells it all. This is a punk band that doesn't take its music too seriously. They're pretty good, though. It's old-school type stuff. To order, send \$3 to: Jon Kiehl, 7101 Kenneth Ave., Citrus Heights, CA 92621.

-- DV

BECKY LOVES ME

There's some pretty decent alternative on the two tapes Becky Loves Me has out. Although a tiny bit edgy, the band puts their emphasis more on melody than aggression. For ordering info, write: 6214 E. 126th St. #101, Grandview, MO 64030.

-- DV

VOX DEI

Want to brush up on your Spanish? Check out the new album by Vox Dei. This melodic hard rock outfit have written various styles in these nine cuts -- the loudest of which are the blazing guitar solo instrumentals by Saul Aragon. Although this style has gone underground

according to the "hip police," these guys do a pretty decent job, although they don't seem to have the vocals to pull off the several ballads they attempt. Quality sonics from Guatemala. To order, send \$6 (cassette), or \$12 (CD) to: Vox Dei, 7014 Blanco Pines Dr., Humble, TX 77346-5068.

-- DV

CRUCIFER

Crucifer returns with some solid 'n' heavy death metal on this three-song tape. Shades of classic metal appear in the rhythms and leads and the vocals are growled in a pretty understandable, almost thrash, cadence. It's a very good listen and very tough. Distributed by Wild Rags, 2207 W. Whittier Blvd., Montebello, CA 90640.

-- DV

ARISE

Cool packaging. I didn't know whether to expect industrial or punk. What we get is some powerful grooves and distortion. "Whipping Boy" is one of the toughest tunes I've heard from an unsigned band this month. The album is totally varied. It'll go from a grindcore vocal delivery to a mid-tempo straight-ahead rock ballad thing. Several documentary-type

samples are used between songs. For ordering info, write: 818 S. Fuller, Independence, MO 64052.

-- DV

DWARF RECORDS SAMPLER

Here's an 18-song disc with several cool bands on it, including Jawbone Hill, Dodavahu, and Four Living Creatures. Focusing almost entirely on alternative music, some of the bands get pretty hard, like SO7, a female-fronted band from Montclair, Virginia, and A Few Loose Screws, who come off fast, furious, 'n' fuzzy. This disc is a bargain at \$10. Send to: Dwarf

live in concert
Tourniquet
Circle of Dust
The Blinded
Six Feet Deep
Firescape
May 20th
your head and heart
will never be the same
call for details
(708)888-8670

Records, P.O. Box 38, Shiloh, NJ 08353.

-- DV

ANGST

Angst is back, with more diversity than you can shake your sampler at -- better production, and a pro-copied release. The thirteen songs here are at least shoulders (if not head and shoulders) above the previous release (*Strain*), though the vocals still sound young in spots. In general, samples are used a lot more, and he (Matthew M. Nordan) sticks to the techno/industrial side of things. The first song, "Descent," showcases the general feel of this album: heavy dance, in the vein of Under Midnight's latest. "Who am I to Question God," "Godshaped Void," "Boiling Point," and "Persistence," stay in this ballpark, though the last is an instrumental.

Don't worry, you diversity heads, there's still all the wild styles as displayed in the previous tape, but they blend together a lot better than they did there. "Effexor (venlafaxine hcl)" carries the folk rock banner, and "Five in the Chamber" does justice to the original rap/southern rock genre. In short, if you liked the first one, this one's even better -- if you've never heard the first one, this is a steal for \$5. Available from 137 Records, P.O. Box 204963 Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520-4963.

--Michael Tulloch

BLACKHOUSE

If you like slow industrial fused with rap and 70's rock with booming bass, here's your band. Don't get too excited, though -- this album leaves something to be

THE CUTTING EDGE

CD'S V CASSETTES V VIDEOS



SOMETIMES SUNDAY / "DRAIN"
MIKE KNOTT / "STRIP CYCLE"
DELIVERANCE / "A DECADE OF"
PLANK EYE / "SPARK"
STRONGARM / "ATONEMENT"



CD'S
\$11.00

SEND
FOR
FREE
CATALOG!

CA'S
\$8.25

T-SHIRTS BOOKS

VIDEOS

SHIPPING & HANDLING:

CD'S & CA'S-\$1.75 1ST ITEM, \$1.25 EACH ADD'L

SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:

THE CUTTING EDGE / P. O. BOX 637
STONY POINT, NC 28678 / (704) 585-9449

desired. As with many industrial/techno groups, repetition is Blackhouse's primary tool, along with seemingly meaningless sampling. Track seven, "Gittin' Bizzy," is a solid 40+ seconds of a telephone busy signal, which is rather annoying; yet, I am told, "Industrial fans dig it!!" Who could argue with that? Track ten, "Bass Breath," is an instrumental, the likes of which you could hear booming from the low-rider of the rich kid across the street. This band is to be commended for their creative use of some of the most diverse electronic sounds in the world of sampling and tape manipulation. It's funky. It's industrial. It's Blackhouse. For ordering info, write: An Liffersmuhle 95, 47877 Willich - Germany. --BVM

THRE3

Here's a band from Corpus Christi, Texas whose sound is very modern, although they seem to have such influences as anyone from Veil of Ashes to The Cure. This disc is more or less an American Euro-pop type thang. Although this band isn't necessarily super-intense, it is still definitely Heaven's Metal review material. For ordering info, write: P.O.Box 3397, Corpus Christi, TX 78463 -- BVM

DESERT VOICE

Did you ever hear a CD in which 90% of the songs sound exactly like each other? With just one listen to the first song, one has basically heard the entire album. That's right -- not exactly a Swiss Army knife full of variety. There seem to be too many bands now that just can't seem to get out of the 80's. Desert Voice, this four-member group from Switzerland, is one of those bands. For ordering info: P.O. Box 3175, Flamatt - Switzerland. -- BVM

ARIAL VIEW

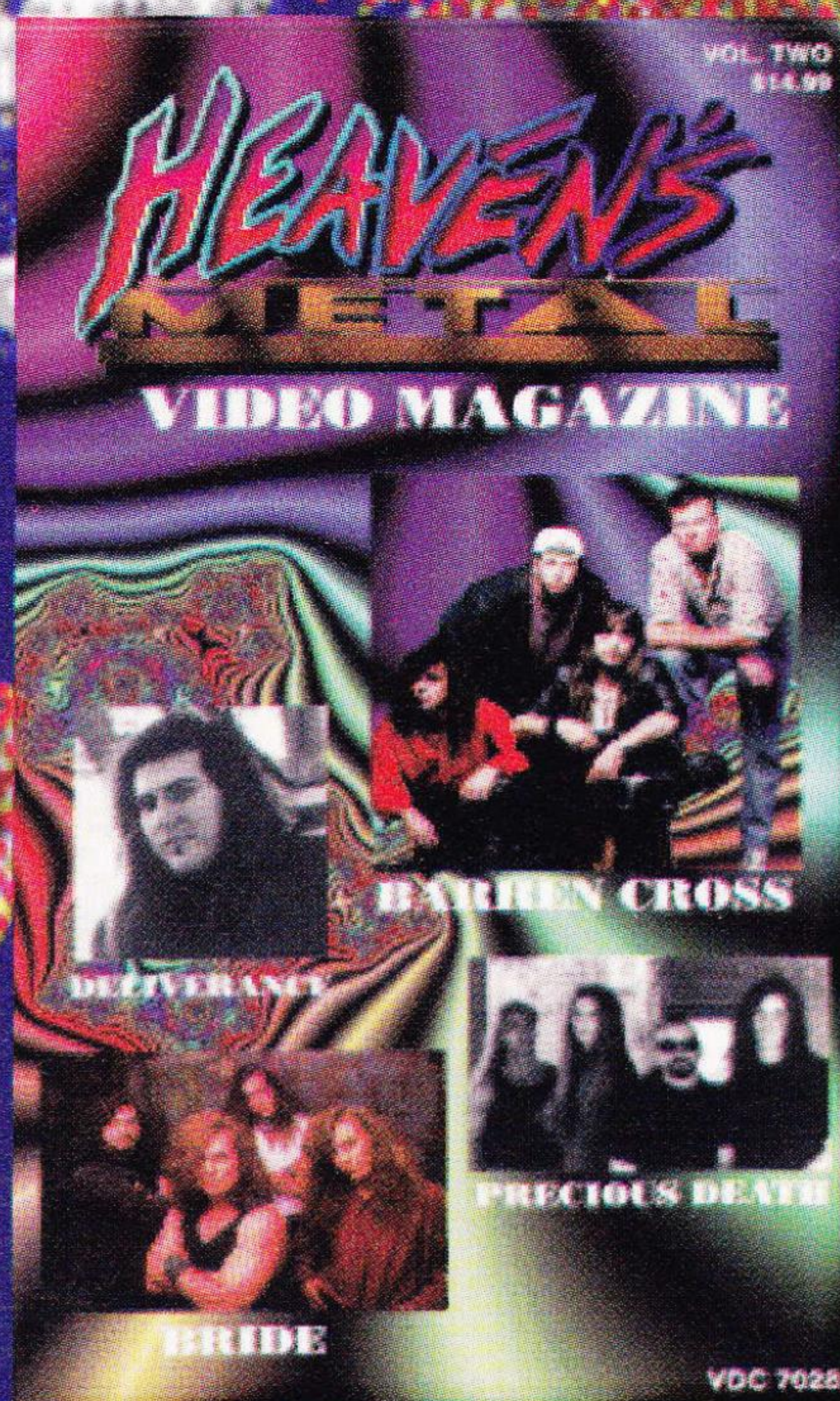
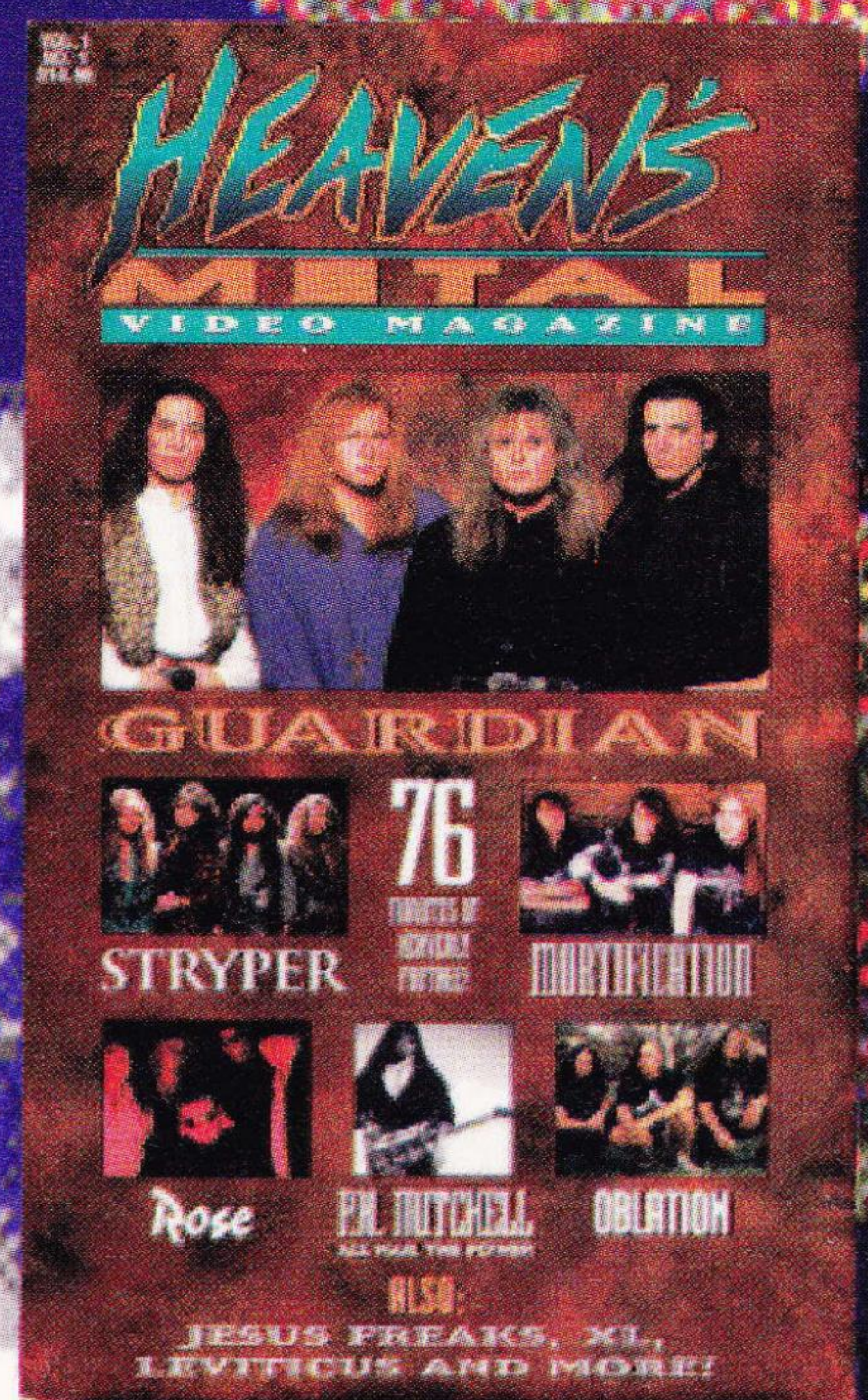
After popping in these cassettes, I was immediately taken by how talented these guys are -- right out the gate. Their first tune, "Kapygna," is a very cool instrumental that features some indredible drumming, solid bass lines, and intense double lead guitar solos. This band is definitely one of the hardest groups to categorize. Their style seems heavily influenced by Dream Theater, Kansas, Maiden, Styxx, and old Stryper (if you can visualize all of that).

Arial View has great vocals and harmonies, thick guitars, thumping bass, screaming keyboards, and thundering drums. What more could you possibly ask for? Some of the very hot tunes on the

two-tape demo include: "Disciples of Defeat" (A slam on those who follow Satan); "Seventeen" (A contemporary look at the life of a teenage girl); and (my favorite) "Shadows in the Dark" (examining one's self). The production on the tapes is very clean, so you can hear it all. Their "eyeball looking down from heaven" logo is awesome.

Arial View is also Biblically and lyrically sound. The lead guitarist is a pastor, and all of the members are serious, sold-out disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. As a concert promoter (who has done over 40 Christian rock concerts in the last five years) in Northern California, I can honestly say that this band is as talented as any signed or unsigned band that we have had. Any record company should seriously consider these guys. They've been playing all of the rock clubs in Sacramento, and have hit the top slots at the secular "battle of the bands" gigs. This is arena rock at it's finest! For a copy of their "smokin'" two-tape demo set, send \$12.50 to: 9101 Newhall Dr. #81, Sacramento, CA 95826. You can call (916) 369-2818 for booking and more info. --Pastor Fred Z

Watch Me Watch Me Watch Me



Heaven's Metal Video Magazine

\$15 Each or All Three for \$39 (+ \$3 Postage or + \$5 for All 3. Send to HMA)



QUICKIFICATION

PRIMITIVE RHYTHM MACHINE

STREET DATE: MAY 26TH

Diamante
INTENSE
Records

WON'T SAY WE DIDN'T WARN YOU!

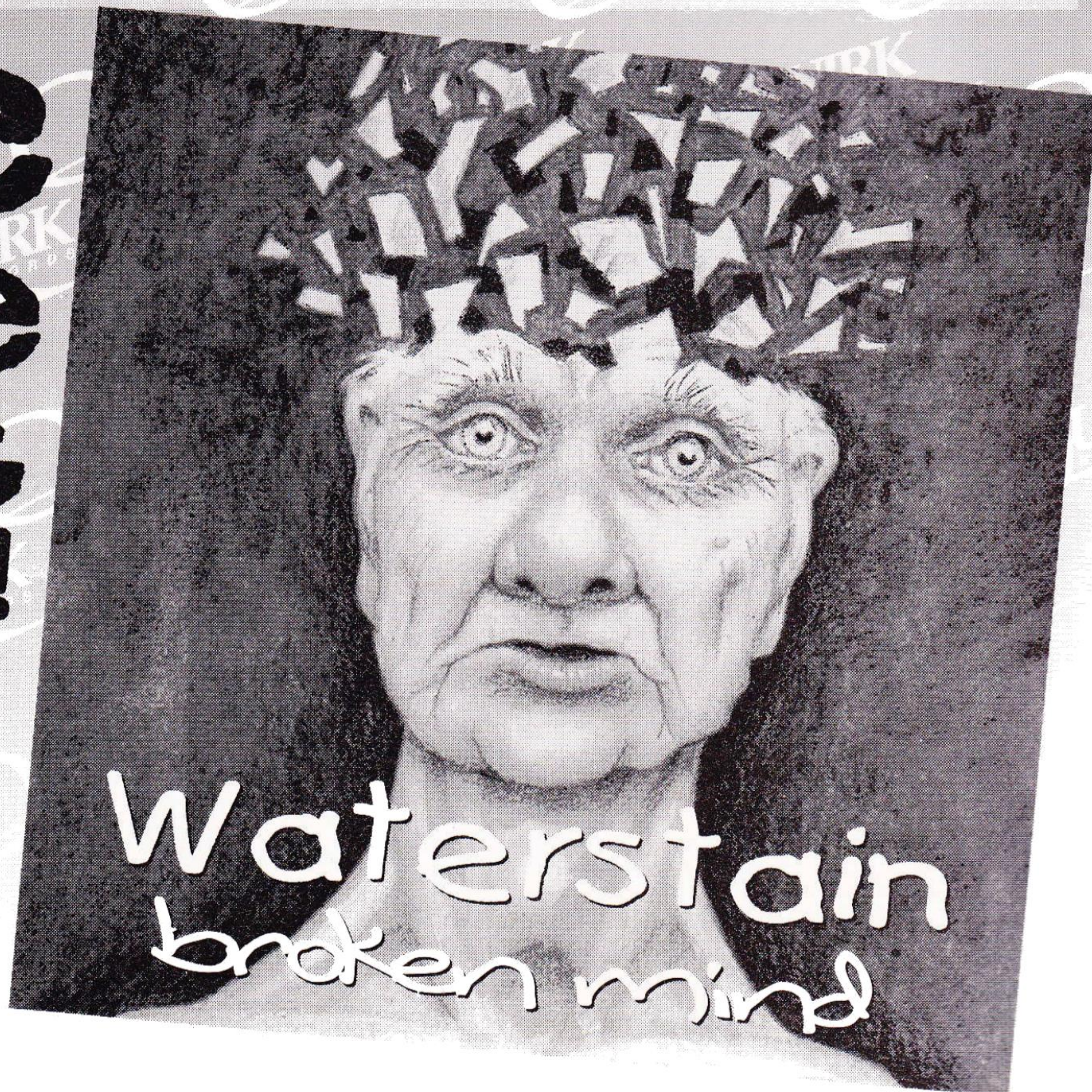
RLC/RID 9526

QUIRK RECORDS PRESENTS:

Music for the next millennium!

Distributed by
Covenant Music
PO Box 743
Monticello, MN 55362

612.295.3937



Waterstain
broken mind

THROUGH THE BATTLEFIELDS OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE COMES CHRISTIAN ROCKS NEWEST SOLDIERS.

WARFARE

II CORINTHIANS 10:4



CLEAR AND POWERFUL CHRIST CENTERED LYRICS MAGESTICALLY SUNG TO A WIDE RANGE OF MUSICAL RHYTHMS. FROM EASY LISTENING VERSES TO ELECTRIFYING REFRAINS, WARFARE COMPLIMENTS SEVERAL STYLES OF MUSIC. COULD ROB, RICH AND GARY BE THE PREMIERE CHRISTIAN ROCK BAND TODAY? HEAR FOR YOURSELF!

DENNIS SAVAGE, PRESIDENT

THAMES VALLEY CHAPTER FULL GOSPEL
BUSINESS MENS FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL

	PRICE	QUANTITY			TOTAL
T-SHIRTS 2 SIDED 3 COLOR	\$15.00	XL	L	M	
8 SONG CASSETTE THE BATTLE	\$10.00				

CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS ADD 6% SALES TAX FOR EACH CASSETTE (\$.60)

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO:
RACING WITH JESUS MINISTRIES

MAIL TO:
WARFARE
P.O. BOX 13
CANTERBURY, CT
06331-0013

FOR BOOKING OR INFO

Please write to:

Or Call:

WARFARE
P.O. Box 13
Canterbury, CT 06331-0013

Rob 203-546-6371

Gary 203-387-6977

"LIFT UP THE ROCK THAT MAKES US ROLL"

T-SHIRT & CASSETTE COVER ART DESIGN BY DAVE BARR & TOM ANTHONY (CUSTOM PRINT & DESIGNS 203-365-0062)

CORNERSTONE

not just another
christian music

festival

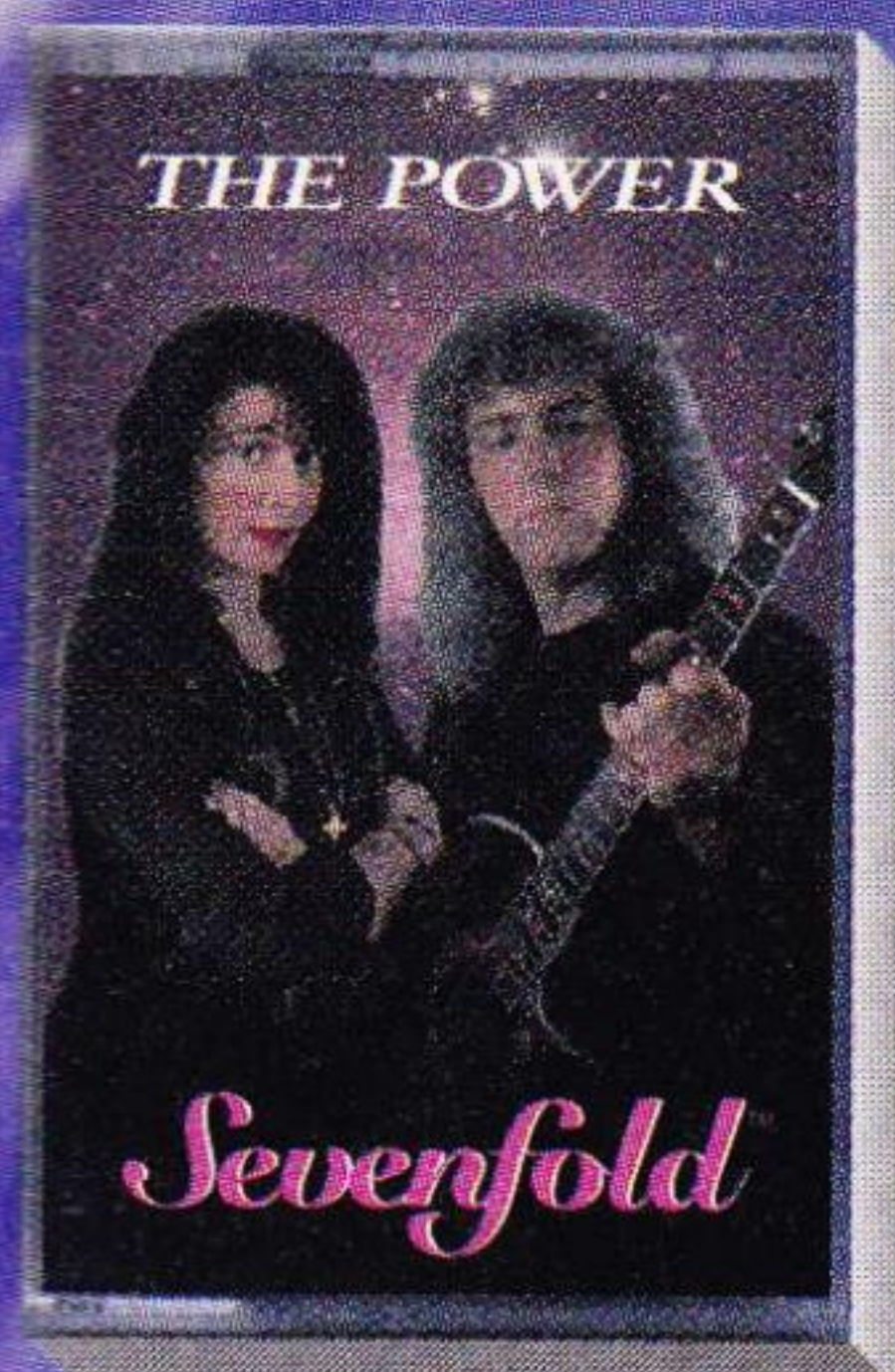
Cornerstone Festival is not driven by the latest, trendiest, or bestselling. Cornerstone is a labor of love by and for people who are serious about their personal relationship with Jesus. It's about nurturing a sense of community, about music and arts, about seriously impacting the surrounding culture with God's love.

JUNE 29 — JULY 2

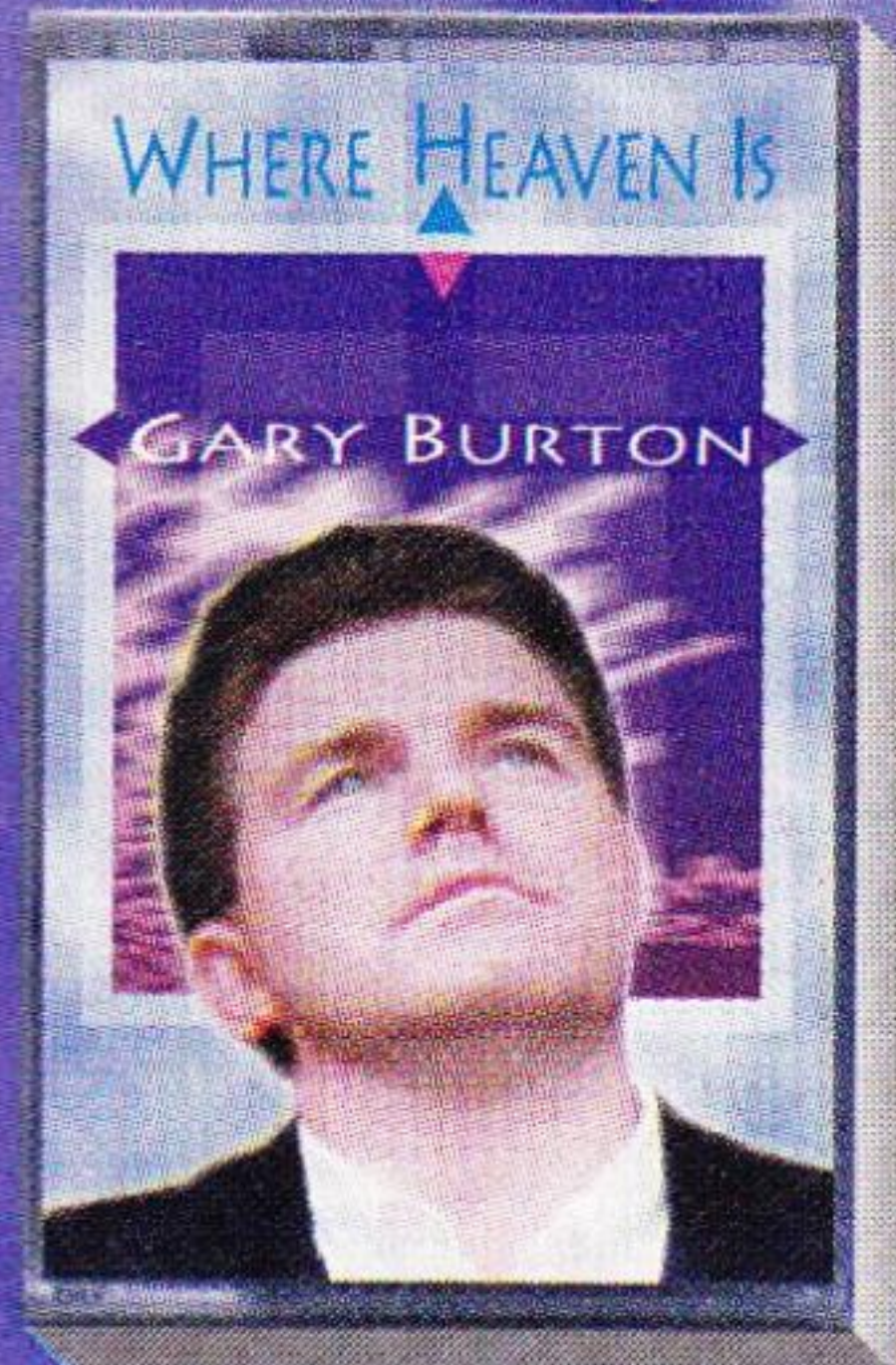
For more information on
Cornerstone Festival, call
(312) 989-2087, or write to
CORNERSTONE FESTIVAL,
920 W. Wilson Ave.,
Chicago, IL 60640

CORNERSTONE FARM, BUSHNELL, IL

CHARLIE PEACOCK
GEOFF MOORE & THE DISTANCE
PHIL KEAGGY BAND
STEVE TAYLOR
REZ UNPLUGGED
AUDIO ADRENALINE
PFR
LOST DOGS
77s
ADAM AGAIN
GLENN KAISER
T-BONE
SIXPENCE NONE THE RICHER
POOR OLD LU.
VECTOR
JIMMY A
AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS
BRENT BOURGEOIS
THE CROSSING
GREG & REBECCA SPARKS
CAUZIN' EFEKT
FLEMING & JOHN
CHRISTAFARI
STARFLYER 59
SOULFOOD
OUT OF EDEN
YONDERBOY
JASON & THE G-MEN
JAZZ IMPROV. SET
CRASHDOG
SIX FEET DEEP
KLANK
ARGYLE PARK
BLENDERHEAD
PLANKEYE
THE BLAMED
FOCUSED
MX PX
CRUX
UNASHAMED
STRONGARM
CIRCLE OF DUST
JERUSALEM
RAVE HOSTED
BY PRODIGAL
SONS WITH
PROPHECY OF
PANIC, JOY ELECTRIC, VIRUS,
ECHOING GREEN, AND DJ
SCOTT BLACKWELL



Sevenfold – "The Power"
Well-known rockers Sheryl Ellenberger & Robert Carlton, now driven by God's Power to sing it and play it – five favorite jams. Selections Tape 1



Gary Burton – "Where Heaven Is"
Compelling lyrics and driving orchestration from a man on his way up. Tape 2



Les LaMotte – "Sonrise A New Tomorrow" Songs born from a life broken – and reformed in God's image. Tape 3



Buy any combination of 5 tapes & CDs and receive Heaven's Eyes "Metal Belt Buckle" (a \$12.75 value) **FREE!***

Name _____
Address _____ Apt.#: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Acct.# _____ Exp. Date: _____
Signature (for credit card orders) _____



Or send check or money order payable to: Les LaMotte • 3002 Keating Ct. Burnsville MN 55337-5616 U.S.A. Credit

Card fax orders, completed order form to: 612-895-6194, Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. For international orders allow 4-6 weeks.

*"With Powerful Music,
The Word of God Grows
like A Tidal Wave"*

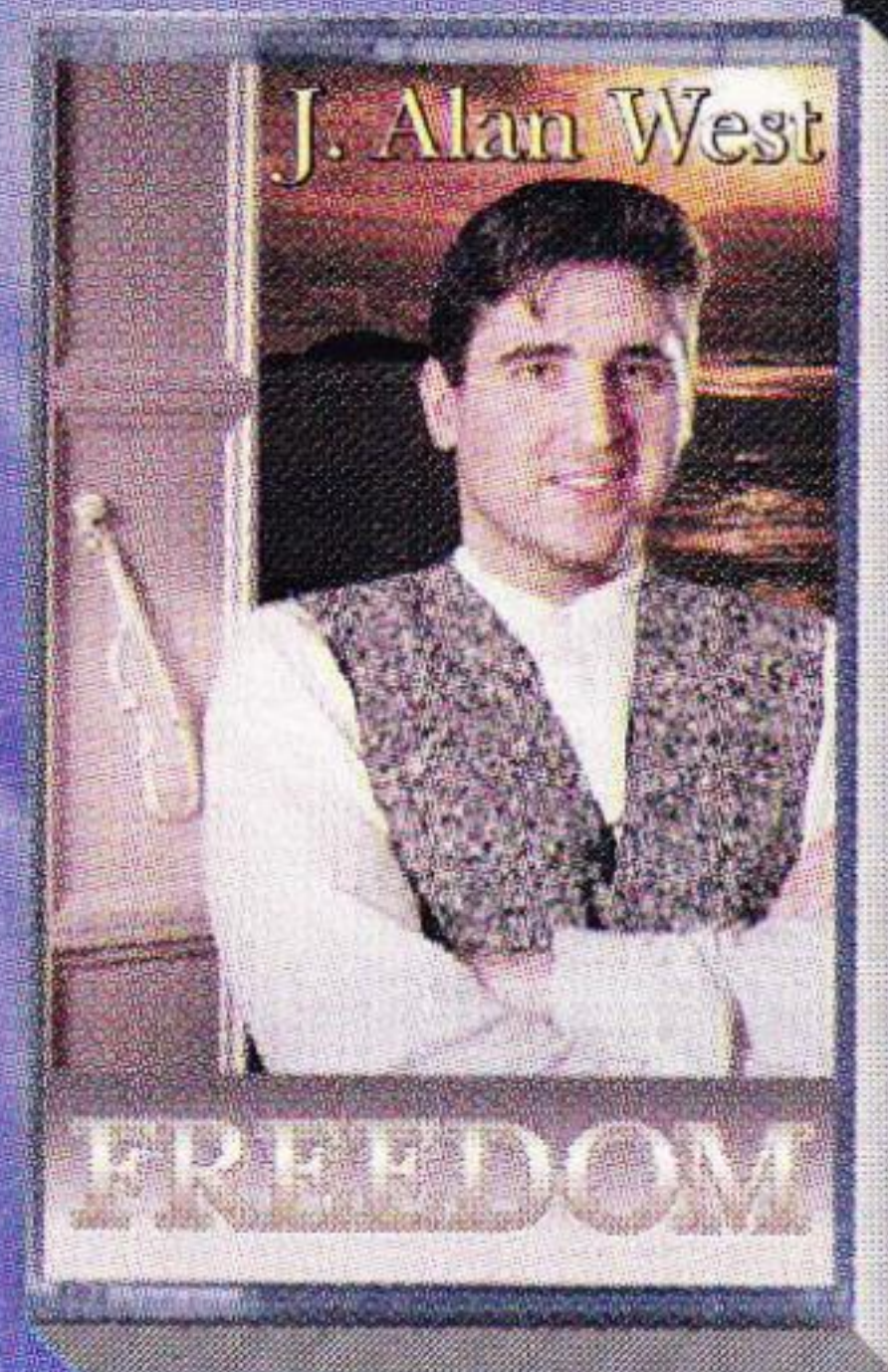
Music TO Change Our WORLD

Heaven's Eyes –
*To music lovers, it's hard-to-find talent in a mediocre world.
To emerging artists and songwriters, it's ministry development from album graphics to concert promotion.*

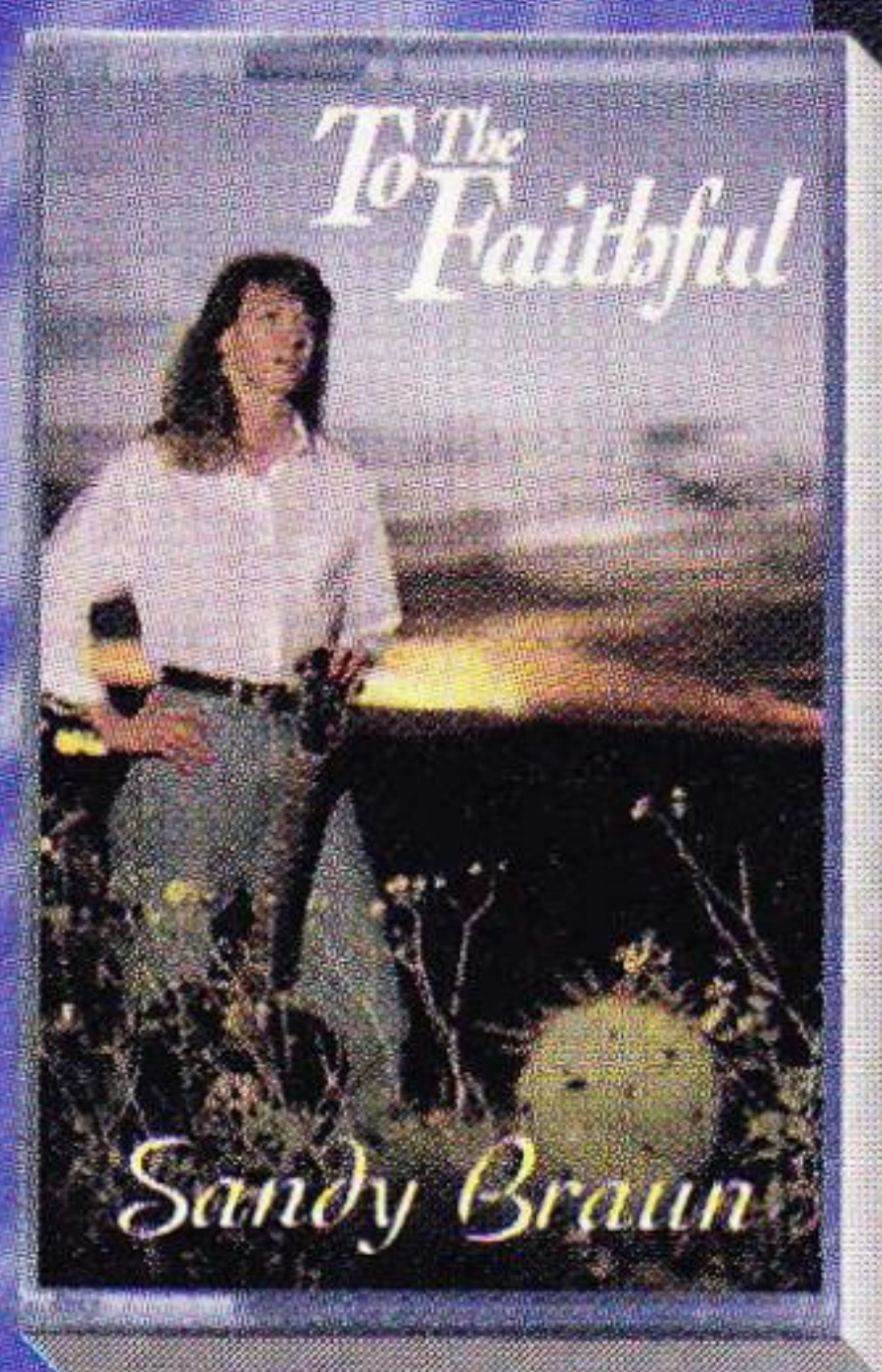


Heaven's Eyes™
A Vision for
the Emerging Artist™

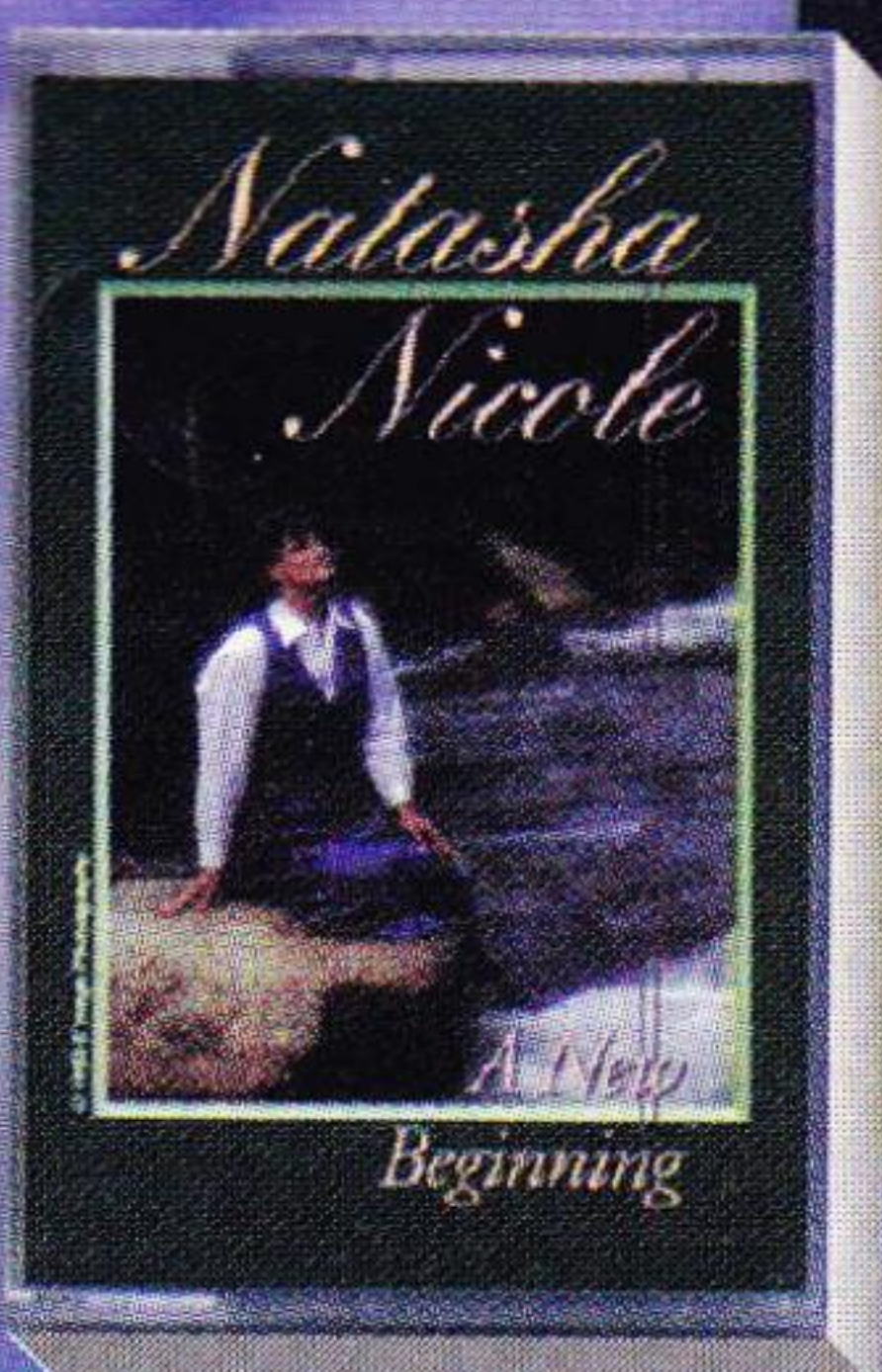
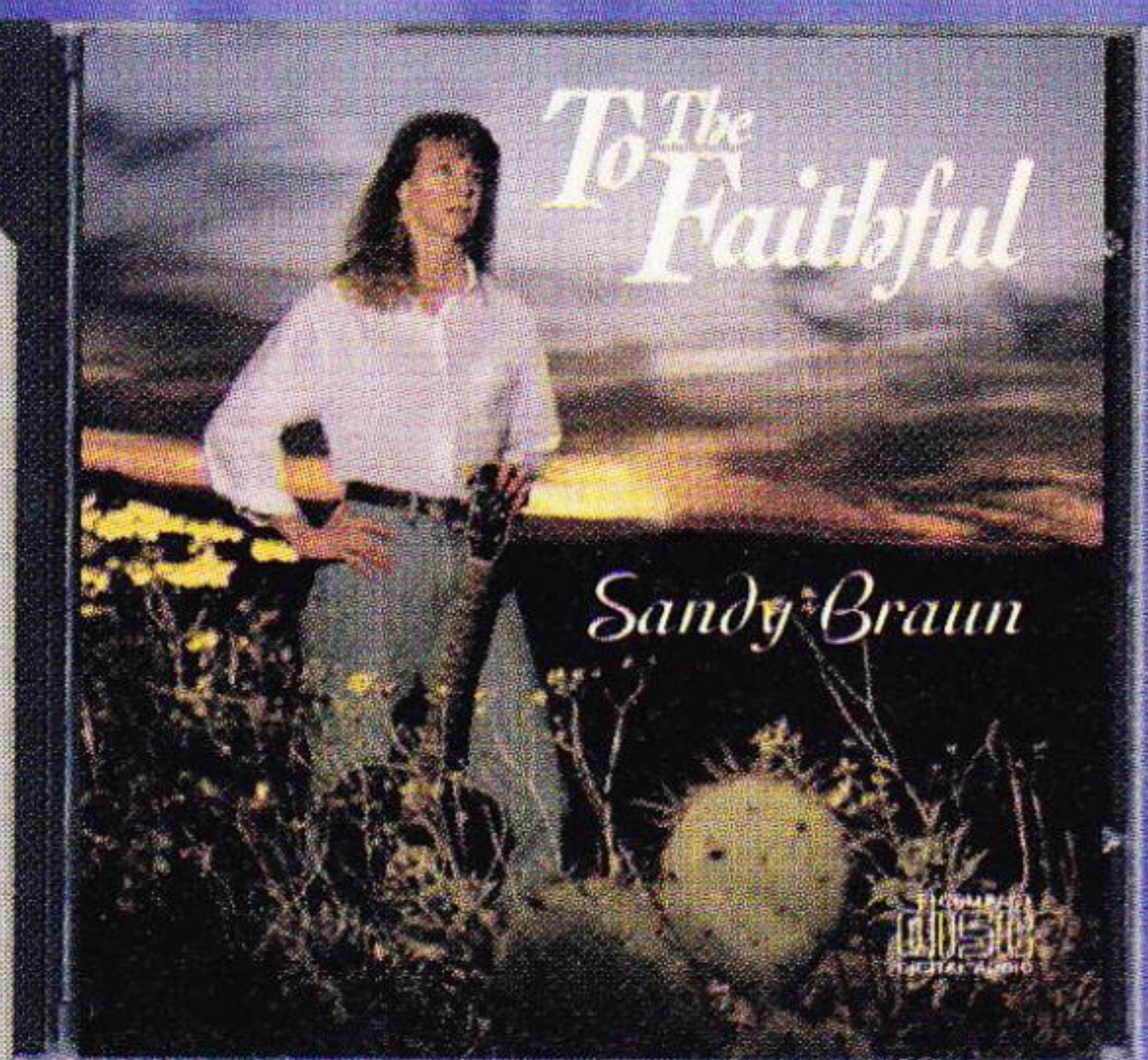
Member of GMA • NACAS • ASCAP



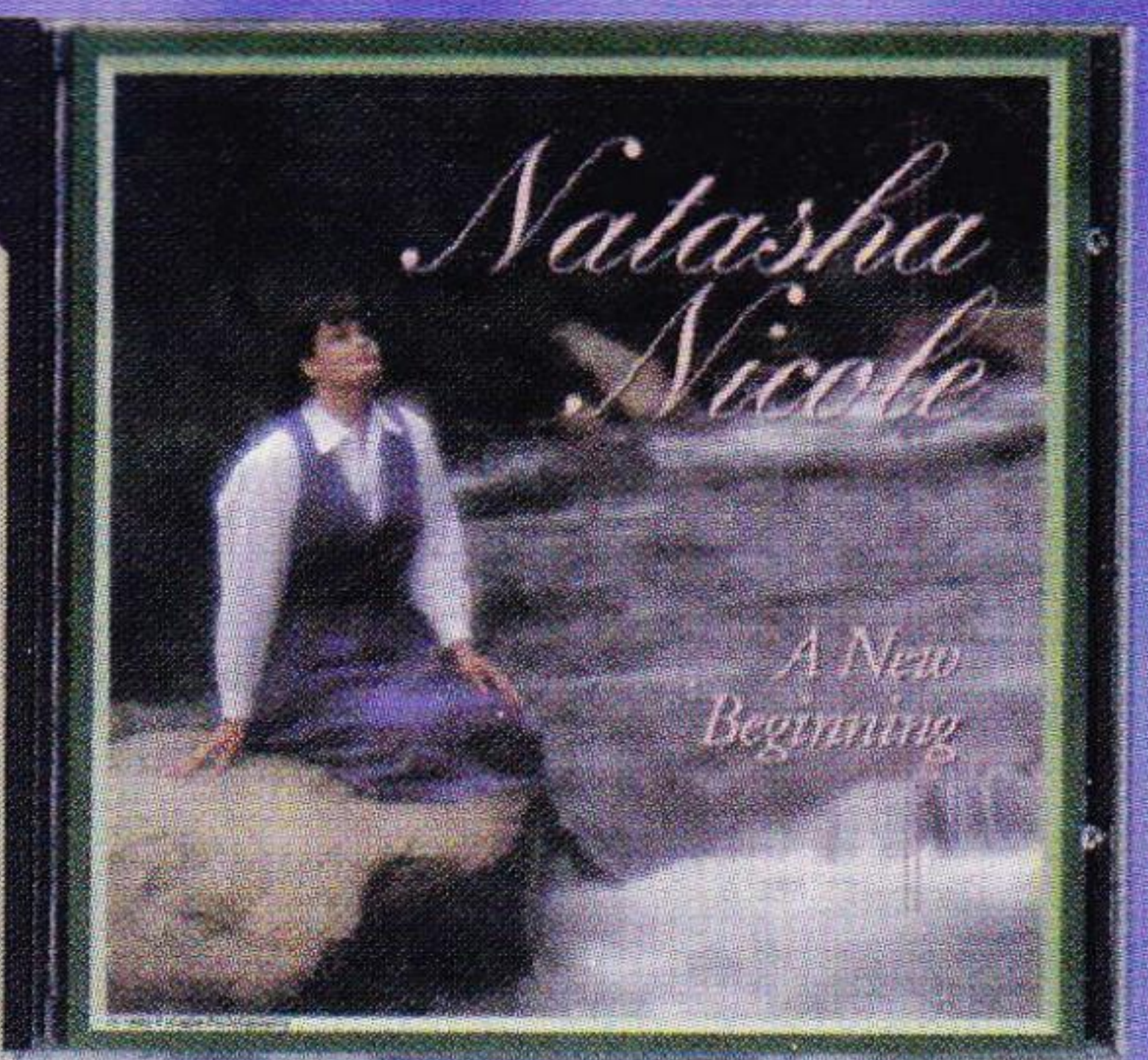
J. Alan West – "Freedom" Incredible impact and world-class arrangements combine to make this new talent a "must have". Tape/CD 4



Sandy Braun – "To The Faithful"
A well-spring of talent from America's desert Southwest. Thoughtful praise & worship with soaring lyrics. Tape/CD 5



Natasha Nicole – "A New Beginning"
Easy-listening inspiration: Natasha's deliverance after a near-fatal accident brings meaning to harmonious vocals. Tape/CD 6



Les LaMotte, Designer/Visual Consultant, Founder
Singer/songwriters or groups – call us at 1-800-894-1181 or fax 612-895-6194 for "Emerging Artist" info packet on album design, promotion, & merchandising.

Circle Choice	Item#	Qty	Charge	Extension
	1	Cassette Tape	\$8.50	
	2	Cassette Tape	\$10.00	
	3	Cassette Tape	\$8.50	
	4	Cassette/ CD	\$10/\$13	
	5	Cassette/ CD	\$10/\$13	
	6	Cassette/ CD	\$10/\$13	

Add \$3.00 (Int'l \$6.00) shipping and handling up to five selections of tapes or CDs. More than 5, add \$.75 per title.

MN residents add 6.5% sales tax.

Total Order Amount Enclosed \$

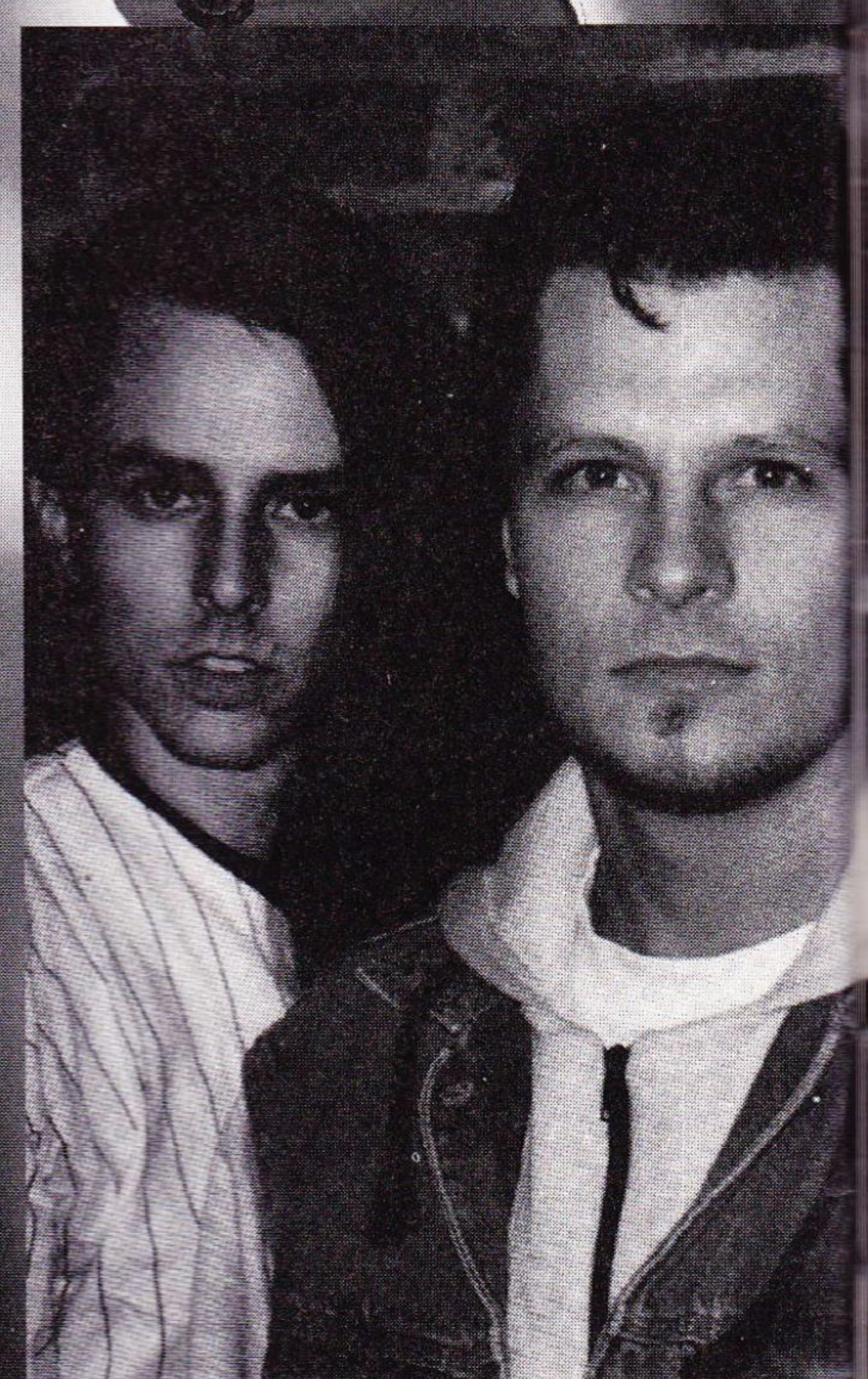
International sales add \$1.00 to each item. US funds or currency accepted only.

* Indicate first choice ☐ Gold ☐ Silver Buckle

© 1995, Les LaMotte, Heaven's Eyes

GOING

ROOM

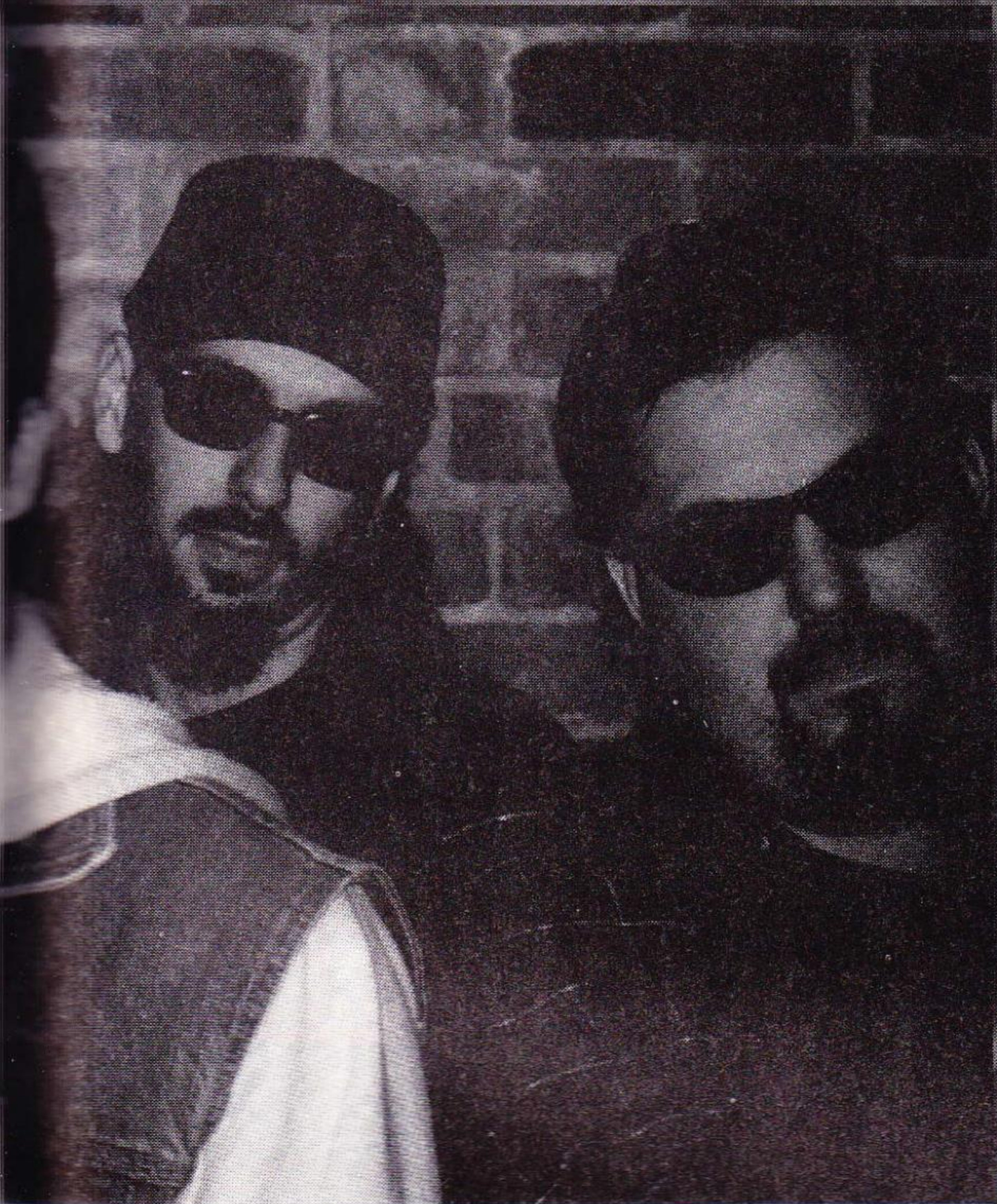


B

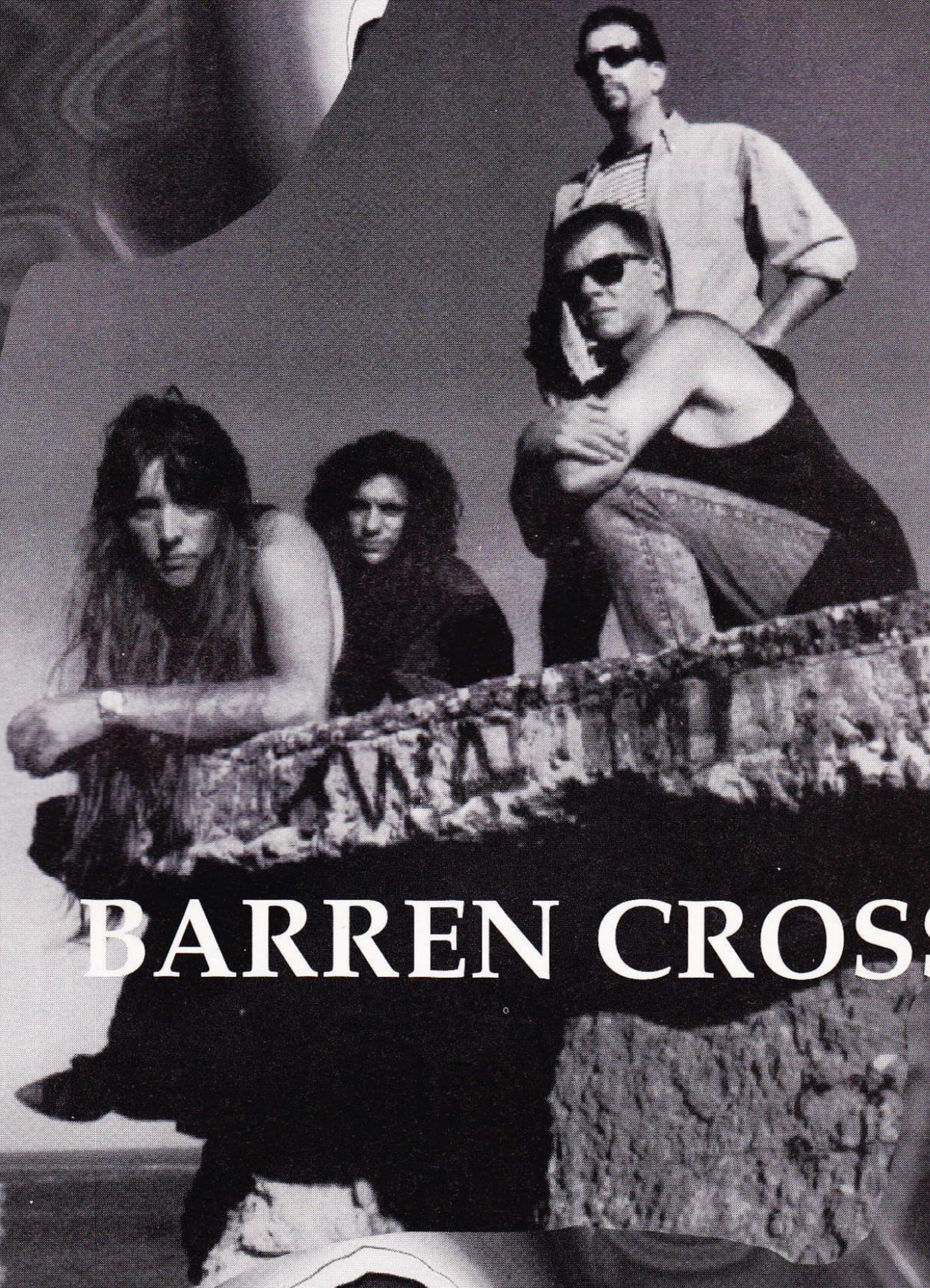


TU

95
Z MUSIC'S 'BRIMSTONE CHRONICLES'
WITH HOST 'BRIAN BLOOMER' WILL
BE SHOOTING AN UPCOMING
EPISODE AT THE SHOW!
COMPLETE 4 CAMERA VIDEO PRODUCTION
OF CONCERT TO BE RELEASED TO RETAIL.



RIDE

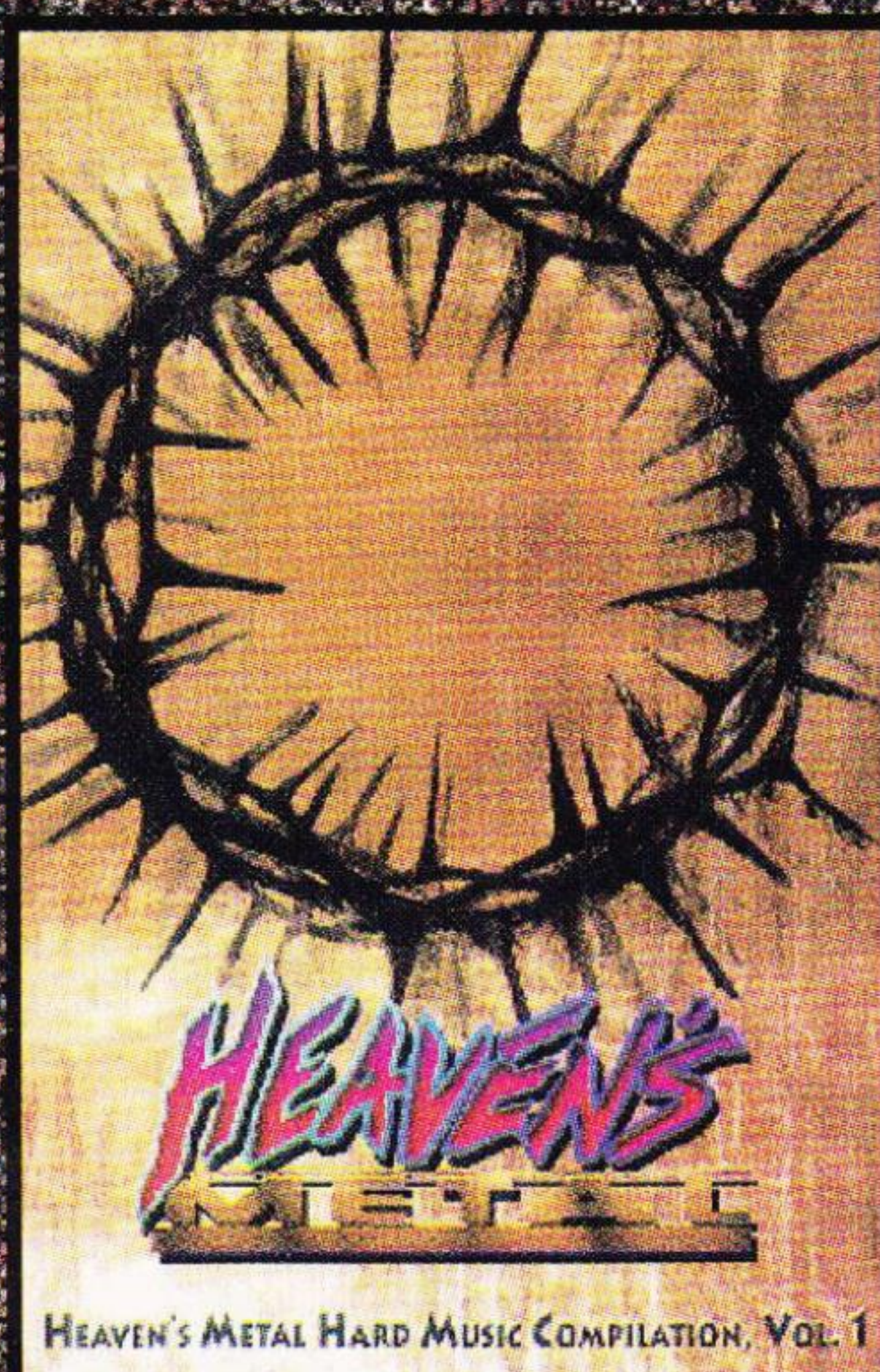


BARREN CROSS

GED
R
ORDS

ES. APRIL 25 **CLUB 328** NASHVILLE TN.

The Heaven's Metal Shoppe



**Heaven's Metal
Hard Music Compilation**
Cassette - \$8
CD - \$11



Heaven's Metal Collection
(w/commemorative booklet)
2-Cassette Boxset \$15
2-CD Boxset \$20



**Rubber Meets
The Road**
By
Paul Doty

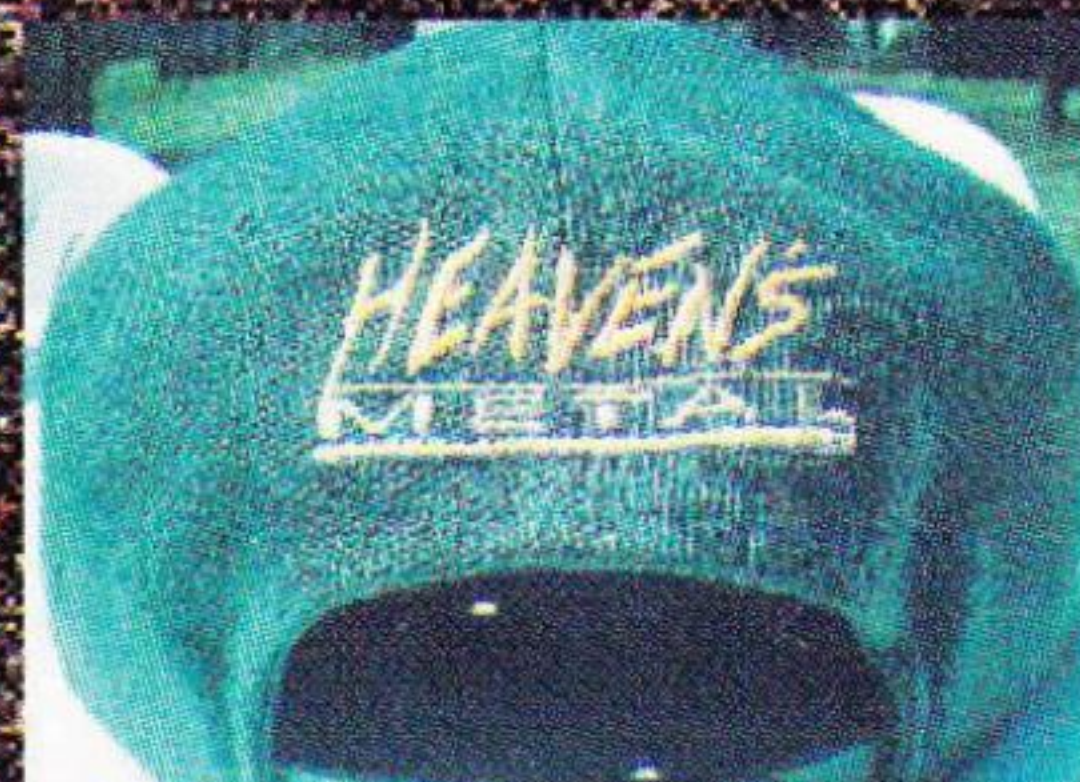
HATS - \$16



HM Golf Style (front)
(This design is \$12)



Truth "Hand of God"
on blue surf style



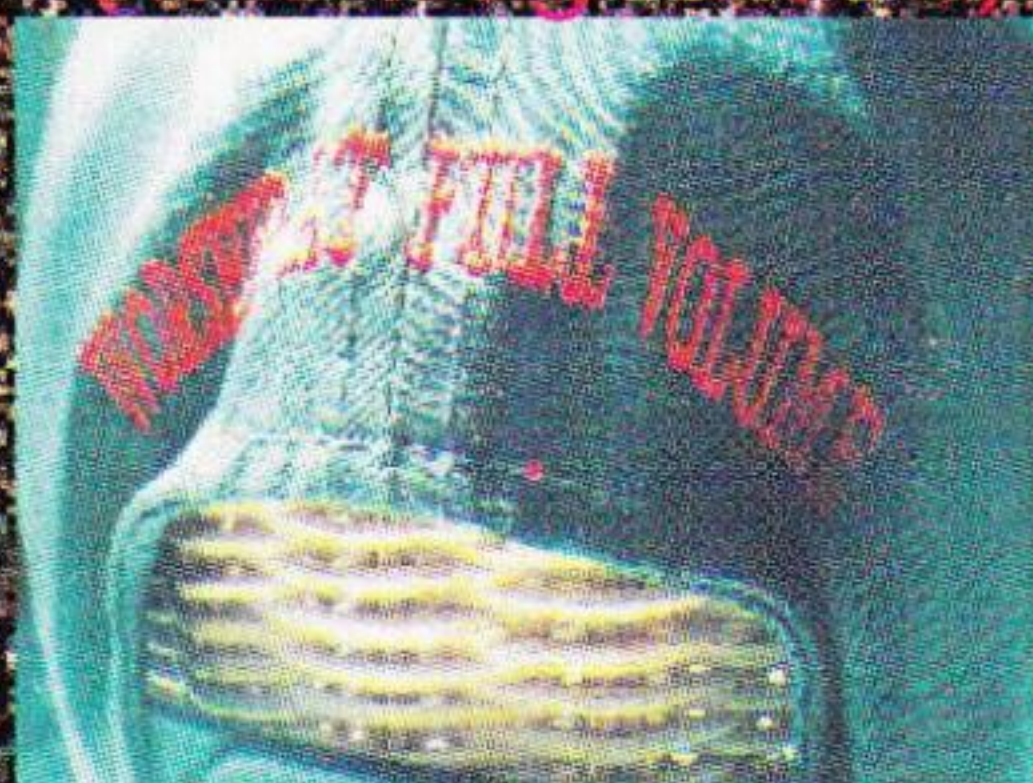
All Truth Hats feature
HM logo embroidered



Truth "Hand of God"
on green skater style



Truth "King"
on red/blue surf style



Worship At Full Volume
on back



Truth
on red/blue surf style



HM/Truth Designs
\$16



Truth
on blue surf style



Truth "King"
on green skater style



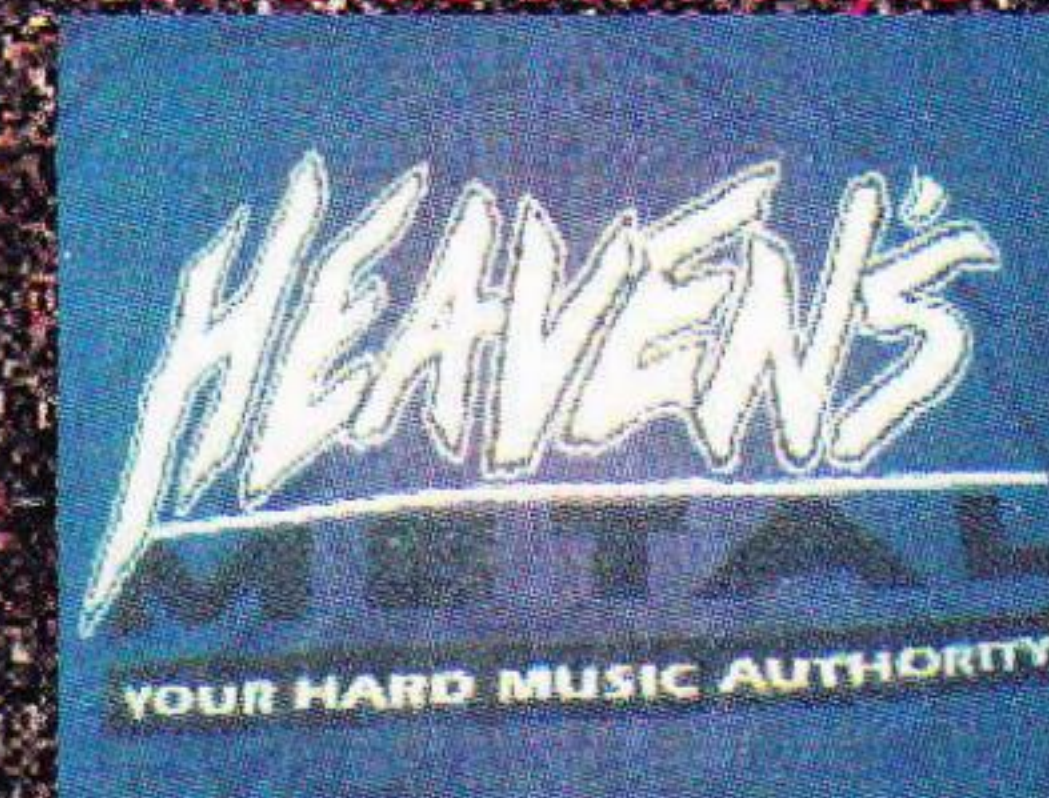
FOREST GREEN



GRUNGE GREEN



Back Design of Shirt



PURPLE



NAVY BLUE

T-SHIRTS COME IN ONE SIZE (FITS ALL) - \$16

POSTAGE RATES
Book Add \$1.50 (\$2 Canada/\$4 Overseas)
Tape/CD Add \$1.50 (\$2 Canada/\$4 Overseas)
Hats Add \$2 (\$2 Canada/\$4 Overseas)
Boxsets Add \$3 Priority Mail
(\$4 Canada/Overseas)
Shirts Add \$3 Priority Mail
\$4 Canada/Overseas)

SHIP TO:

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

QTY

ITEM

PRICE

TOTAL

Alternate Choice:
(of color/design)

Subtotal

TX residents add 8% tax

Postage

Total Amount Enclosed

Send to: HM PO Box 17367, Austin TX 78760-7367

The Trading Post

Trading Post classified ads are \$20 for 50 words or less, and \$0.50 per word beyond 50 words. Radio shows must send paid ads on station letterhead.

* **THIS PROPHECY:** Word, Noise, Skate. Some have said that pop, rock, alternative, rap, and metal music could not peacefully co-exist with skateboards and Jesus Christ. Guess we found out too late! Read the 'zine today. Some color, some black & white. Bible studies and creative, biblically-inspired writings, cool music interviews and reviews, skateboarding coverage, and lots more. For six issues, send \$12/U.S., \$23 CANADA, or \$25/Overseas to: This Prophecy, P.O. Box 391, Lewis Run PA 16738. Send one buck for a sample issue.

* **CROSS RHYTHMS** - Europe's leading Christian music mag. Fully comprehensive review section reviewing EVERY Christian album available in the UK. Send international money order for 52.80 sterling to: Cross Rhythms Subscription Dept, Cornerstone House, 28 Old Park Rd, Peverall, Plymouth, Devon, England, PL3 4PY for 12-issue sub or 4.00 sterling for sample issue.

* How would you like to buy **PHOTOS OF YOUR FAVORITE BANDS?** (You've seen Larry Bolen's work in HM) Write I.H.S. Photos for info: 7439 La Palma, Suite 543, Buena Park, CA 90620.

* **Subscribers in Germany, Switzerland and Austria** may order directly from the German distributor of Heaven's Metal: Stephans-Buchhandlung, Stephanstr. 6, D-97070 Wurzburg, Fax (+49)(0) 931 56351.

* How fast does your music magazine get the newest Christian music news to you? If you're not getting Visions of Gray, you're getting it late. Send for a free 3-month trial subscription: PO Box 724973, Atlanta, GA 31139. Call 404.319.7064. Visions of Gray, Art. Music. Now.

* **Christian Demo Clearing House** - One Stop Shopping. For a current list of available demos by unsigned underground bands write to CDCH, P.O. Box 81, Rancho Cucamonga, CA. 91729..

* **ATTN: GUITARIST** Is your guitar in need of repair, refinishing or just plain overhauling? Let **ABERNATHY GUITARS** do the work for you - (via UPS)! From repairs to the Vintage guitar to the Hot Rod "wired to explode," we can help! Abernathy's exclusive custom and standard model guitars are also available. Call or write for details! P.O. Box 518, Pleasant Garden, NC USA 27313 (910) 674-5093..

* **RUGGED CROSS CONNECTIONS** - Buys, sells, and trades on all formats, both new and used. Have Saint, Brainchild, L.S.U., Bride, Barren Cross, Lightforce, Force 3, Mortification, Messiah Prophet, Applehead and lots more! Lots of hard-to-find tunes! Send a L.S.A.S.E. to: Rugged Cross Connections, 195 Main, Sharpsburg, KY 40374-9108..

* **THE WORLD'S BEST**, most talented hard rock-heavy metal band is not us. We are a melodic groove-core band (Pantera-type music, three-part harmony background vocals, with a hint of thrash). We need a ministry-minded, committed, serious Christian bass player that could relocate and tour. Backup vocals a definite plus! We have toured with Mortification, and possibly will again this summer. If interested, send resume or contact: Slamcat, P.O. Box 14021, Tulsa, OK 74159-1021. (918) 245-1032 or (918) 744-0784..

* **Breast Cancer affects 1 out of 9 women** reports the American Cancer Society. 1 out of every 10 will die from it. Did you know that abortion increases a woman's risk of breast cancer up to 200%? If you want women to be truly empowered by having knowledge, for free information, write: BREAST CANCER AND ABORTION, SANCTUARY LIFE, PO BOX 1087, LOMITA, CA 90717..

* **GUITARISTS:** Need to charge up that right hand? I am a guitar teacher and performer. I

constantly look for ways to improve my playing, and I do the same for my students. "Sweep Picking" allows the lead guitarist to easily outline rhythm chords during a solo. To get step by step instructions on playing sweeps order a copy of my book "All About Sweeps." Send \$11 (outside U.S. add \$5) to Shreddmill Music Works Unltd. (HM), PO Box 900139, Palmdale CA 93550-0139..

* **Strait Edge Ministries** - Helping you walk the narrow path. Free newsletter call/fax (804) 747-4462 or send SASE to P.O. Box 5291, Glen Allen, VA 23058..

* **WANTED: CHRISTIAN BANDS AND SOLO ARTISTS** for upcoming compilation cassette and CD project. Interested in all styles of Christian music. This could be your big break. Contact: 5th Gear Productions, P.O. Box 3406, Shawnee KS 66203. Call 913-268-1156..

* **WANTED:** Christian Singer and Bass Player to complete a Real Rock & Roll band dedicated to serving Christ. Influences: Guardian, Bride, Fear Not, Michael Sweet, and Stryper (*Against the Law*). To play, perform and witness in the Woodstock NY Area please call Chuck at (914) 657-2266..

* **MUSIC AUCTION!** Christian rock/metal/alternative! Collectables, out-of-print, promos! Cds, albums, tapes, compilations, autographs, video! Bride, Undercover, Shout, Deitophobia, King's X, Bloodgood, Cockburn, Barren Cross, Saint, Stryper, Leviticus, Mylon, Sacred Warrior, Blonde Vinyl label, much more! For detailed list, send SASE: Brent Miller, 1624 East Miller, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101..

* **Austin Area** * Bass and vocals needed. Fear of Fate needs two devoted believers who are open to God's leading. We are thrash - death - core - metal (Pantera meets Living Sacrifice meets Sepultura meets Deliverance). Bass must have pro gear. Vocals must be versatile and creative. Walter (512) 302-7195. Scott (512) 867-0707..

* **Drummer** wants to make a difference for Christ's kingdom on earth. The sound is much like Skid Row. Have you been called? 1 Timothy 3:1-13 a must. Greg, 2104 Windsor Avenue, Toms River, NJ 08753, 908-506-6923..

* **Urgency/Gospel Metal** - Keith Day, author of these magazines, is pursuing other avenues in Christian music. Therefore, he is liquidating his entire stock and selling all back issues for \$1.00. That's \$1.00 per issue. So, pick up historical interviews and photos of Holy Soldier, Tourniquet, Stryper, Guardian, Sardonyx, Vengeance Rising, Deliverance, Crystavox, and others! Send check or money order to: Keith Day, P.O. Box 6544, Orange, CA 92613-6544. Also, rare Stryper merchandise is still available!..

* **NARROW GATE:** A bimonthly nonprofit newsletter featuring the best unsigned, independent Christian metal bands. Start your lifetime subscription with a love offering of \$8 or more. Send checks to: Narrow Gate, 229 Euclid Ave., Watertown, TN 37184. Bands send demos for review, please..

* **BOTTOM LINE** - Christian Hard rock band seeking bass player and intense vocalist/frontman. Must be willing to relocate. Serious inquiries call Bottom Line Studios at (916) 542-2961 or send demo to: Russ Cootey, P.O. Box 13124, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151..

* **FREE CD & LP CATALOG** - We buy, sell & trade all styles of pre-owned Christian music - Hard Rock, Metal, Alternative, Contemporary & more! Over 1,000 CD & LP titles to choose from. Want lists welcomed. Call or write: The Crossing - HM, 3013 S. Cooper, Arlington, TX 76015, 817/557-2174..

* **ATTENTION ALL CHRISTIAN PUNK/SKA/ALTERNATIVE/INDUSTRIAL BANDS** (both SIGNED AND especially UNSIGNED

ARTISTS). Underground Railroad, a weekly radio show, is accepting demos for its debut show in April. If you would like your band's music played on the show, send us your CD or tape (CD preferred), bios, info. on band, and a phone number for possible interview to be played on the air (a special section is dedicated to nothing but unsigned bands!). Send to: Calvary Chapel, c/o Underground Railroad, 1771 N. Zaragoza, El Paso, TX 79936 (all submissions become property of radio show)..

* **Smash Alley Underground:** Texas Chapter Fan Club! Is now able to handle more fan club members thanks to our new computer system network! Texas Chapter has become home-base for all S.A.U. fan clubs world-wide! Please send S.A.S.E. to: P.O. Box 127, Canyon, TX 79015 U.S.A..

* **WE BUY, SELL, OR TRADE!** Christian Metal, Thrash, and Death Metal! (Demo and Cass.) Huge and rare supply! Largest inventory world-wide! Vengeance, Deliverance, Mortification, Saint, Sacred Warrior, etc. Please send \$1.00 for Price List Catalog to: Blazing Light Promotions, P.O. Box 127, Canyon, TX 79015 U.S.A. (806) 655-2548..

* There are a few Back Issues of HM available. They are: #20 (Sacred Warrior); #29 (Jet Circus); #31 (X-Sinner); #32 (Crucified); #33 (Holy Soldier); #34 (Lanny Cordola); #35 (Novella); #36 (REZ); #37 (Tourniquet); #40 (Guardian); #41 (Mortification); #42 (Believer); #43 (Tamplin); #44 (Magdalen); #45 (Barren Cross); #46 (Michael Sweet); #47 (Living Sacrifice); #48 (Bride); #49 (Tourniquet); #50 (Precious Death); #51 (Focused); and #52 (Sometime Sunday). All others are sold out. Each copy is \$3.50 (Canadian/Foreign orders add \$3 per copy for Air Mail postage).

* If you have a fax machine, send us \$2 for any two HM articles, and we'll fax 'em over to ya! (Sorry, but we do not process billing for this service, nor any of our merchandise items -- just subscriptions.)

* **HM "Worship At Full Volume" t-shirts.** Logo on front, WAFV on back. Available in Navy & Forest Green & Purple & Grunge Green (a lighter, more washed-out shade). One size (XL) fits all. \$16 (plus \$3 Priority Mail postage or \$4 Overseas/Airmail).

* We've still got a few of the black silk-screened hats at \$5 each (plus \$1 postage).

* We also carry three of Truth Clothing's hottest hat designs with the HM logo embroidered on the back. One features the Truth logo on the front, another the crown of thorns and the word King, and another with a giant hand holding a cross. These go for \$16 (plus \$3 postage/\$3 Canada & \$5 foreign).

* **Heaven's Metal Posters** are still available from some issues at \$1 each: Holy Soldier; Believer; King's X; Mad At The World; Tim Bushong; Ray Parris (B&W); and Zion (B&W).

* **HEAVEN'S METAL "WORSHIP AT FULL VOLUME" BUTTONS** are \$1.00 (plus 55 cents postage) each (Canada/Foreign add \$1 postage). They come in red, orange, pink, blue and green.

* **Heaven's Metal Stickers** are \$1.00 each (plus 32 cents postage/\$0.50 foreign).

* Each subscriber to Heaven's Metal has two Prayer Partners. We take the names directly above and below yours on the master subscription list, who have been designated to pray for you and vice-versa. Write in if you'd like their names and addresses.

* If you'd be willing to make copies of a Heaven's Metal flyer to post around your town, write in for a master copy.

* **NEED TO TALK?** Call the Sanctuary Hotline at 1-800-548-5222. No one will take your money. Trained counselors are there strictly to help you. HM

Artist Book Reviews

By Dale Thompson

Handling the reading chores this time was Bride's Dale Thompson, who devoured each book we sent him right away, sending us a faxed review back within a week. Check out what he found so interesting, as he took a buffet-type approach to several different types of books.

The Reckoning

James Byron Huggins

Harvest House

This is an action-packed

"Rambo meets James Bond" novel. The Reckoning takes you on an exciting roller-coaster ride through the world of politics and religion. A manuscript containing the name of the anti-Christ has been stolen by an evil force wishing to use it to take over the world. Gage, the good-guy hero/ex-Navy Seal is bound by a promise to a dying friend to retrieve the manuscript, which contains a prophecy that could destroy the world and everyone in it. This novel contains a hint of God with plenty of guns, bullets, and old-fashioned knife fights. There is plenty of mortal conflict; however, the suspense factor is low and the story/plot becomes predictable. It does not make one wish for a sequel.

Slam Dunk

Dave Branon

Moody

Being an NBA fan myself, this book was refreshing. Since professional sports stars are considered by many to be heroes, it is good, as a Christian who enjoys sports, to be able to find out who and where the Christian athletes are. 17 NBA players are profiled, and even interviewed, which is my favorite part of the book. There is more to these players than just talent and a determination to win -- more than just basketball statistics and adoring fans. There is a spiritual side to these supermen: a dedication to Christ. Throughout Slam Dunk you can read of their true commitment to the Word of God, read electrifying testimonies, and read about their faith that overcomes temptation. Some of the players highlighted are: David Robinson; A.C. Green; Mark Price; and Craig Ehlo. Their accomplishments as NBA players

are outstanding; but, for every one of these giants, their most-cherished moment was when they received Jesus Christ into their lives. This is a must-have book for every NBA fan or anyone who loves to hear about lives changed through the conviction, power, and grace of the Lord.

At the Foot of Heaven

Kevin Max Smith

Star Song

"Poetry is the spontaneous

overflow of powerful feelings; it takes its origin from emotion recollected in tranquility." (-William Wordsworth, 1770-1850.) This book of 40 poems and original paintings is very colorful and visually appealing. The poems are well written (by Kevin Smith of DC Talk) and cover a various number of subjects. The "Romance" section bored me, the "Spirituality" section confused me, and the "Humanity" section intrigued me enough to go back and re-read the first two sections. The section called "Eternity" made me wonder why it was called "Eternity." Then I went back through the book trying to see if there was sense to be made of this collection. Some of the poetry seemed to be well-thought. Others seemed to be like words one writes on a napkin, as an idea never finished. I am sure that some of these poems read the way they do for the sake of art. The artwork (done by Jimmy Abegghen, aka Jimmy A, a Nashville-based songwriter, producer, and recording artist) sometimes matched the theme of the poems; but, most often, was too colorful -- "needing too much thought to understand" for me to comprehend. This is a well put-together package from both the writer and the painter. My biggest complaint is the vagueness and wondering it brings to the reader. I will sum it up by quoting poet and saint, Abraham Cowley (1618-1667): "To thee alone are given the two most sacred names of Earth and Heaven."

The Minstrel

Steve Rowe

Rowe Productions

I read a lot of sci-fi and fantasy books. I went to this book with an open mind, hoping that it was going to be an



Photo © 1995 Denise C. Keeran

enjoyable book. When you read such authors as Ben Bova, David Brin, and the master of sci-fi -- Isaac Asimov -- it takes much to impress you. The plot held my interest well. Two young boys, Errol and Austin -- feeling smothered by their parents in a medieval village -- decide to sneak out at night to see how the other side lives. What they find in the next village is much like Sodom and Gomorrah. They also find an evil sect of people who plan to wage war against their Christian village. Just like most movies of today, this book is wrapped up way too quickly at the end. Minstrel is short in comparison to most fantasy books, and thus leads to a shallowness of its main characters. There were also a couple of "farm words" used unnecessarily, which was a turn-off to me. Rowe tries to turn these characters into kids of today by introducing them to drugs, sex, and alcohol. He even uses music to try to get the reader to identify better. Rowe falls short, even though he has a good theme and story plot, and even though the Christians overcome the evil in the end.

We Stand Together

Rodney L. Cooper, Ph.D.

Moody

The purpose of this book was to challenge men of all races to tell Satan to "get thee behind me" when it comes to the stereotypes that keep us from being one in Christ. I viewed this book as being Oprah in writing. This book is not a plan, a map, nor the answer to the problem which it speaks of. Stereotypes, prejudice, bigotry, attitudes, and discrimination is just part of what this book digs

in to; telling stories, giving suggestions, advice, and encouragement. But what this book does not do is solve any problems, nor does it shed any new light on the problems of being a white man or a man of color in today's angry world. I am not saying that this book should not have been written, because there are interesting facts within the pages. I am asking: "How can this book, like so many others written on prejudice, really be effective?" At times, while reading this book, I felt myself upon the psychiatrist couch. Other times, it felt as though I was taking a college course.

Sure, everyone owes everyone else an apology for mistreatment, hate, bitterness, etc., but we live in a world where everyone feels that their neighbor owes them something. We are in a sinful world. Greed, dominance, and power are the real issues. It is not the color of a man that causes one to become a bigot. There are so many variables. History and the way society views the past lays heavy upon today's outlook. Ignorance is not expressed thoroughly enough throughout this book (Ignorance -- in the sense that some people refuse to change their perspectives). I believe that to be ignorant is to not be spiritual, and how can men stand on godly common ground if they close the door to understanding?

The problem of racial bias is not solved through science, books, or doctors. It is a problem of the heart. From the color of our skin, our gender, the food we eat to the clothes we wear, discrimination is all too prevalent in our society. Envy, jealousy, and pride are all factors of this disease. I am firm in my belief that racism has been exploited in such a way that many taking up the cause to stop it are merely fueling the fire. So much damage has been done throughout time, it is not only the blacks and slavery, or the cowboys and the Indians, or the Christians and the Romans; this is a problem that has existed since time began. I do not believe that there can be a book written to help this problem, because the people that need help would not read it. I have written as much in this short review as is expressed throughout We Stand Together. Action Speaks louder than words. Matthew 5:44: "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you." (Romans 12:20)

God's Word

World Publishing

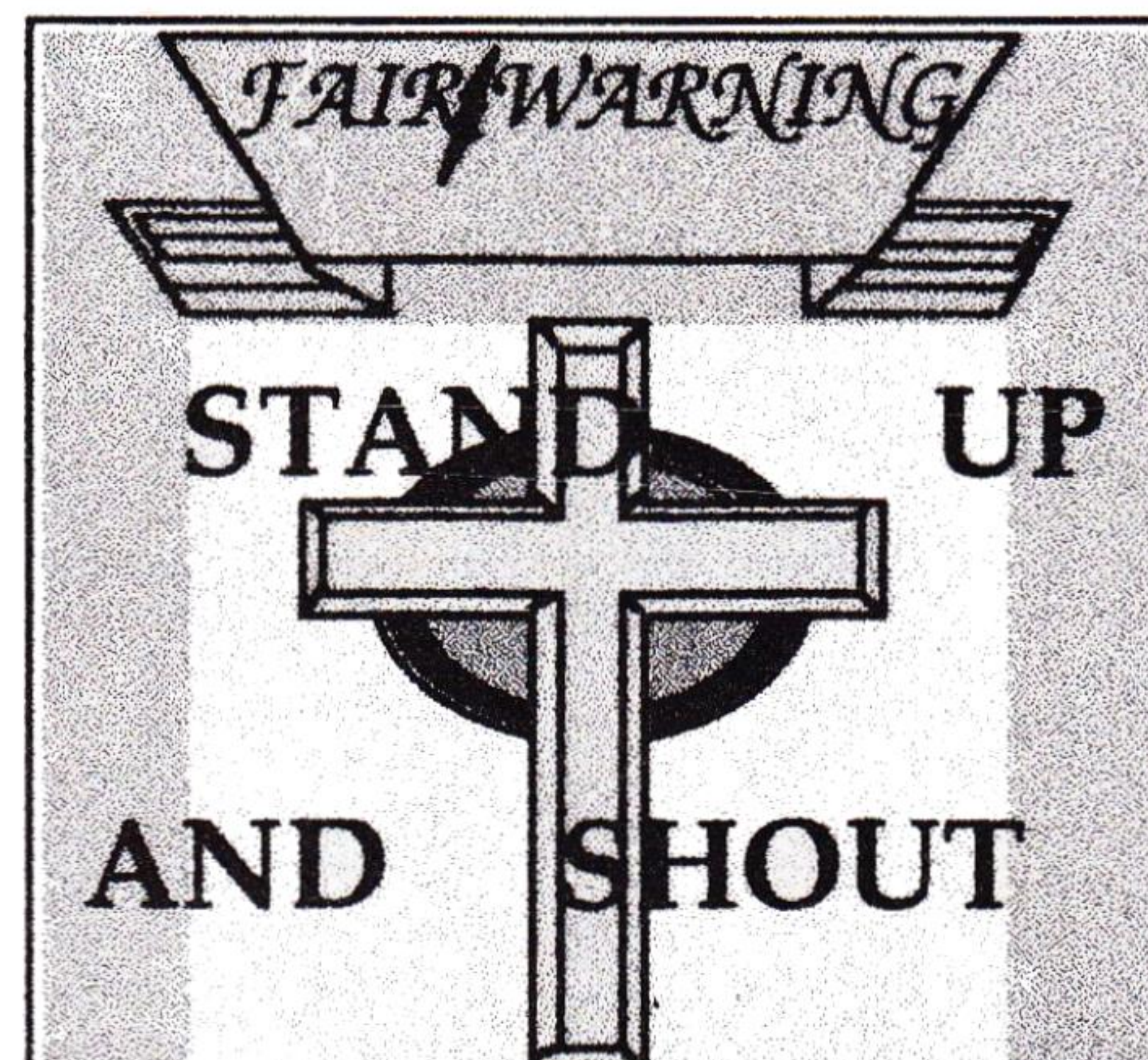
Can you fall in love with a book? Well, I have been in love with the King James version of the Bible ever since I was a small child. There is a passion and a spirituality that shines through the King James version. What if Shakespeare were researched, updated, and modernized into today's English language? Of course, it would help in understanding the text, but the romance of the original would be lost.

God's Word was produced using a theory of translation that combines accuracy with understandability. This theory is called "closest natural equivalence." There has been an attempt made in this newest translation to retain many of the unique characteristics of the original text, without making the English translation unnatural or harder to understand than the text was in the original languages. Much research and expertise went into the design of God's Word. I could go into the process of how this book was put together, but it is a complicated work and space doesn't allow it.

I will say that God's Word is excellent for those who have trouble with theological terms that have little, if any meaning for the average reader. The ultimate goal from the translation team and support staff of the God's Word To The Nations Bible Society is to bring the readers of God's Word into a new or closer relationship with Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the Word of God, the Voice of God, and the Power of God. No matter what translation a person reads, Christ can only be found in one's heart. The books and Bibles that have been written are to introduce a person to Jesus. There is no way to truly know Him, or understand Him until you have invited Him into your heart. When Jesus is invited in, sins are forgiven, and a relationship established. Then and only then does the pages of His life have real meaning.

I find God's Word to be refreshing -- like a fine novel. I am still old-fashioned enough to lean towards the King James version when I am teaching or preaching in public. Since, upon my first inspection, I found nothing out of place or contradictory to what I believe, I will use God's Word in my research before preparing to speak.

HM



Hear Fair Warning Sing
& Hammer out Tunes on :
STAND UP AND SHOUT
A HOT new release from



~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Brand New Music * A Hard
Rock Beat * In-Your- Face
Vocals * A Guitar That You
Just Gotta Hear * Lyrics Go
Straight To The Heart *

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

For Distribution, and your own
copy of the CD, Contact :
High Power Records,
479 Schoolhouse Road
Harleysville, PA 19438
phn - 215-723-9015
fax - 215-453-7740

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

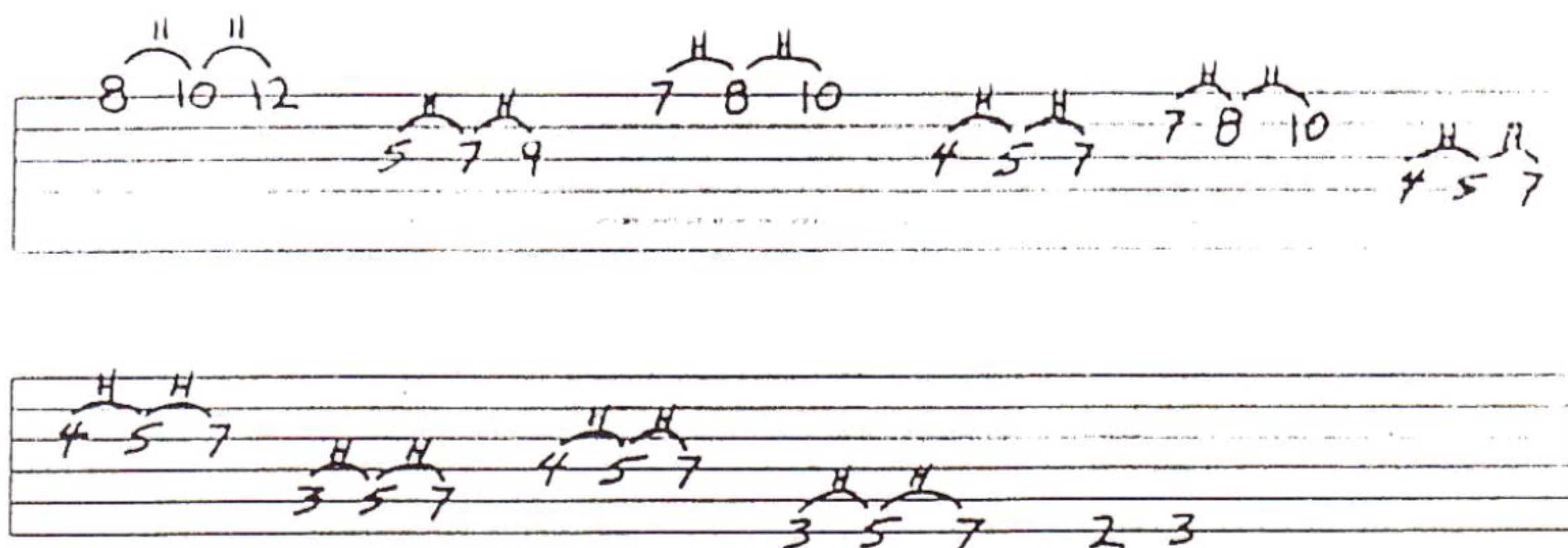
For Tour and Booking info :
Todd Moyer
141 8th Street
Souderton, PA 18964
phn - 215-721-1391
fax - 215-453-7740

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

YOU'LL WANT TO CRANK
THIS ONE WAY UP !!

Licks & Tricks

By Jeff Scheetz



This is part "Lick," and part "Trick!" It is actually a cool exercise that happens to be very musical sounding.

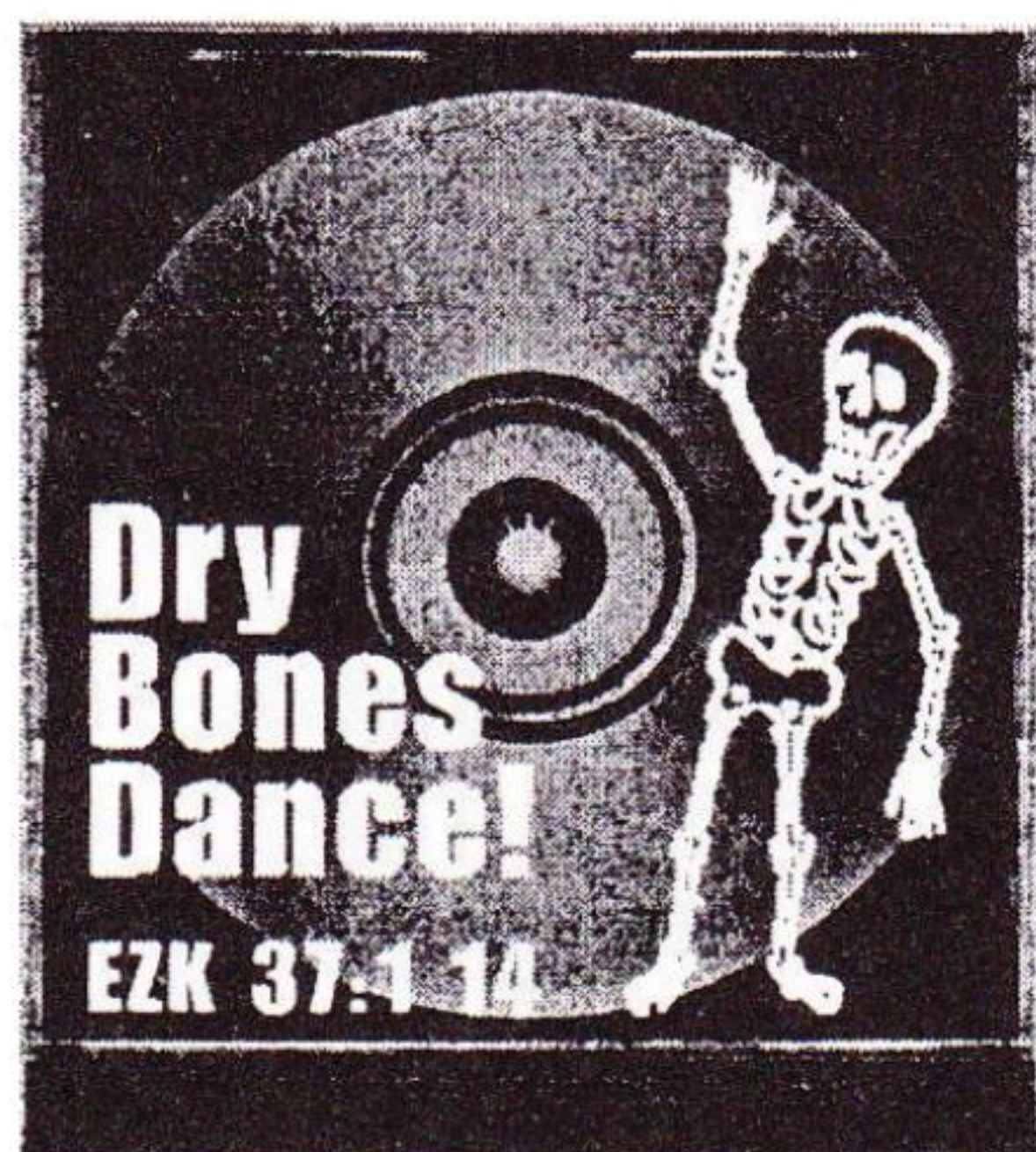
It is taken from our old friend, the G-major scale (Remember to always move everything you learn to different keys and positions). This is basically a simple string-skipping lick, consisting of some octave jumps. This one uses hammer-on's (For

some fun, you can try picking every note for a variation, or reverse the hammer-ons and make them all pull-offs).

Start out by playing this with a triplet feel and, as you get it down, play it as sextuplets. It should be smooth and even, with as little unwanted string noise as possible. If you do have open strings ringing out, try muting them with your right hand palm near the bridge.



Free Catalog CD's - Cassettes - Videos



- Super Deals on Closeouts
- Cassettes as low as 50¢, CD's \$2⁰⁰
- Rare, Hard-to-Find Recordings
e.g.: Savior Machine II and Bride's Across the Border!
- Import & Independent CD's
- Collectible Rarities: Bid-by-mail

Over 10 years of serving Cornerstone festivals has prepared us to blow you away!

Sick of paying full price for Christian Music? Tired of hearing bookstores tell you it's "out of print" when you ask for something that came out only a couple of years ago? **RadRockers is the answer.** We don't compete with your local Christian bookstore...we take over where they leave off. Our hobby of collecting and selling rare music has turned into a fantastic mail order business that is helping the entire world of Christian music lovers!! Take advantage of our great selection and prices...join our family of catalog subscribers today.

RADROCKERS

P.O. BOX 207 ~ MILAN, MI ~ 48160-0207
313-439-7029 FAX: 313-439-7048

Call us today with your request...See if we have it!

FREE Catalog:
Send donation of
2 stamps to help
towards postage.
We'll mail it out the
next day!
Thank You!

NEED RADIO AIRPLAY?

The Christian Media CD (CMCD) is designed for independent artists

Every 90 days we produce a CD that is sent to 500 Christian Radio Stations. Over the last 15 months we've done 5 CD Samplers. Our discs have been played in every state & have made several top 10 playlists. Clients receive a computer printout of all CMCD Stations.

- In Business For 12 Years.
- Complete Tracking Report
- Written Contract
- 500 Stations Receive The CD
- No Extra Charges
- You Keep All Royalties
- \$300 Flat Fee Per Song

THE CHRISTIAN MEDIA CD

For a detailed brochure on The Christian Media CD, call or write
James Lloyd Box 448 Jacksonville OR 97530 503/899/8888



NOW ACCEPTING DEMOS...

8442 RUDNICK AVE.

WEST HILLS, CA 91304

ARE YOU READY TO GROW UP?

The Hamer Slammer Daytona

Sporting distinctive and popular body styling, the Daytona is a crowd pleaser.

The body is soft maple, adorned by a three tone sunburst finish on this guitar.

The neck is a one piece maple Construction, and the sound is driven by three single coil Slammer pickups.

Outfitted with the Accutune II tremolo, this guitar performs well from Rock to Country Music.

List Price: \$499.50

Options Available:
Rosewood fingerboard
and various finishes.

HEAVEN'S
METAL
YOUR HARD MUSIC AUTHORITY

Clip & send to: HM, PO Box 17367, Austin TX 78760

☐ ENTER ME IN THE HAMER SLAMMER GIVEAWAY!

IF I WIN, I PROMISE TO BECOME THE NEXT GUITAR HERO...
(WELL, MAYBE I'LL JUST PROMISE TO BE VERY HAPPY)

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE #

ONE ENTRY PER PERSON. DUPLICATE ENTRIES
WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. DEADLINE: AUG. 15 '95

WIN THIS HAMER SLAMMER!

Artist Tour Apparel

Featuring:

guardian



Tooth and Nail
Logo T-Shirt



Bride



Tour
1995



Also Available....

T-Bone, D.O.C., and The Kry

T-shirts are only \$15.99, and are available in L or XL. To order, Simply photocopy and fill out the form below.

Name _____	Phone # (____) _____
Address _____	
Artist(s) _____	
Quantity _____	Size: Large _____ XL _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Tennessee residents please include 8.25% sales tax for each order. Shipping and Handling is as follows:

\$25.00 or less: \$3.95
\$25.00 to \$50.00: \$4.95
\$50.00 to \$100.00: \$5.95
Over \$100.00: \$6.95

Please send check or money order to:

Boom One Productions
534 Fedders Drive
Madison, TN 37115

Call (615) 868-5214 for more info.

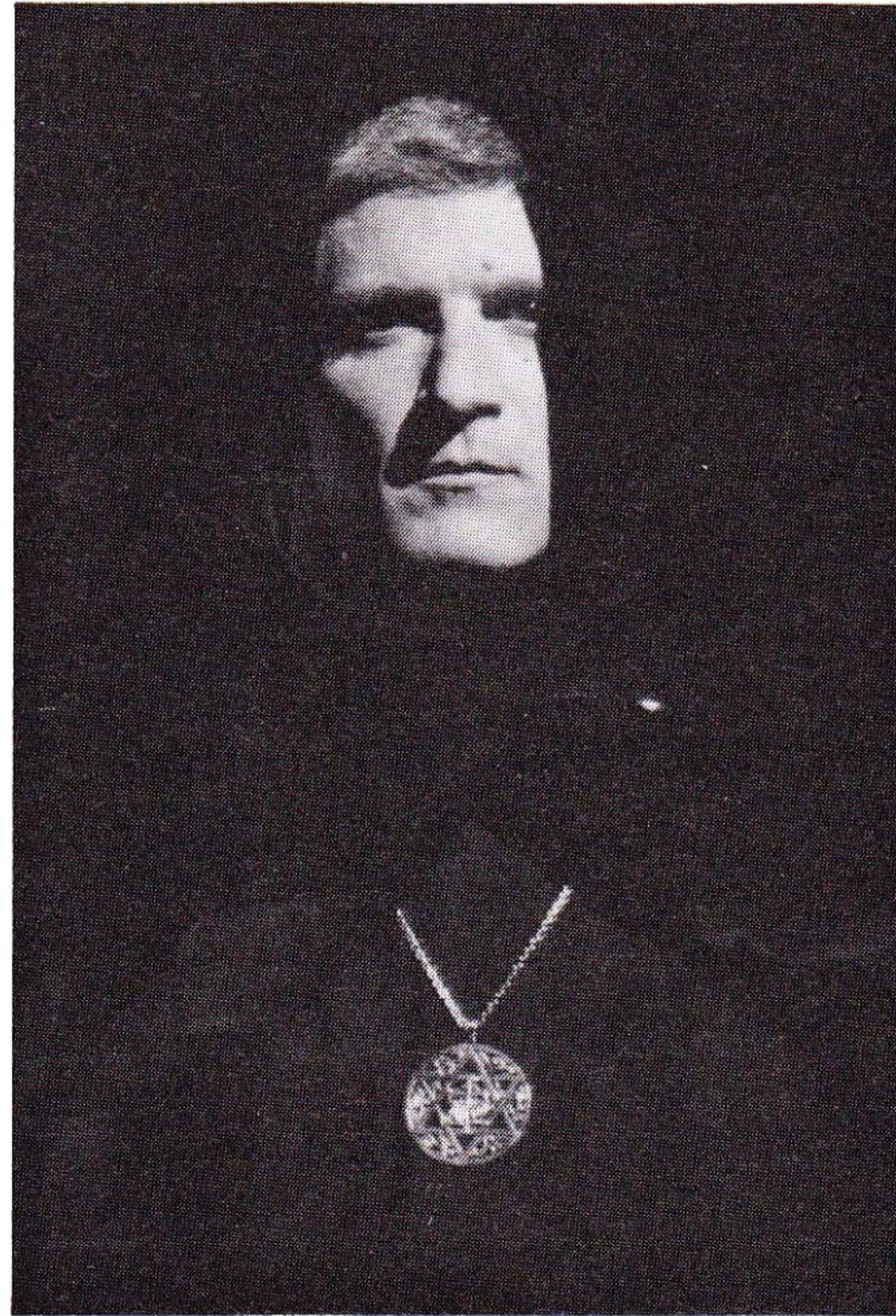
The Christian & Art

The Sons Of Issachar: Knowing What Israel Should Do Part VI

In the last column, we saw that, besides the vital propositional Truth given us in Scripture, God has also revealed Himself to man by means of creation, which is designed by God to be a Symbol of Himself (each part of Creation as well as all of Creation together). We saw also, that the fall blinded men to a large extent, so that we will not, in our sinfulness, allow ourselves to see the Glory of God revealed in His Creation -- Symbols (Romans 1:18-32). We saw, as well, that God has acted through Christ to save sinners and to heal our sin-blinded vision by effecting a spiritual re-birth in those who turn to Him in faith and repentance, causing us to begin to clearly see His Glory reflected in Creation again, as we gaze at Reality through the corrective lens of the Bible (John 3:1-21, etc.). We saw, finally, that the reborn Christian also begins to learn by his Scripture-corrected vision how to help others see God's Glory at the heart of Reality (the primary task of the Christian artist).

How is it that we learn to help others see God's Glory in Reality? Well, remember that Creation itself is a Symbol (composed of a myriad of smaller symbols) that reveals God (Romans 1:18-22; Psalm 19:1-4), and let us first look to see how the Infallible Scriptures use symbols for this purpose.

The Lord Jesus calls himself "the Door" (John 10:7), "the Light of the World" (John 8:12), "the True Vine" (John 15:1-27), "the Bread of Life" (John 6:32), and "the Good Shepherd" (John 10:11). In other places in Holy Writ, He is called "the Branch" (Isaiah 4:2), "the Sun of Righteousness" (Malachi 4:2), "the Word" (John 1:1), "the Lamb of God" (John 1:29), "the Rock" (I Corinthians 10: 4), "the Root of David" (Revelation 22:6), "the Rose of Sharon" (Song of Solomon 2:1), and on and on.



Each of these symbols reveal something about the Lord Jesus' Nature, Character, or Actions. Because we know what a door is, we can understand that Jesus is a Way, the Door to God the Father. Because we know what light is, especially in its relationship to darkness, we can understand that He is the Light Who drives the world's darkness away. Because we know the beauty of a rose, we understand what it means to call Christ Jesus the Rose of Sharon.

These usages illustrate the primary or main purpose of all symbols: to reveal God. This purpose gives the primary meaning to everything that exists. This is not, however, the only meaning of symbols; they also mean themselves. For example, a man is made in the Image of God (Genesis 1:26-27) -- he images God to the world. But that man also images himself for what he is, a man. That man also may be a husband. He is also a son. He may also be a brother, and a father, and even a king. All of these various functions mean various things, but this man can mean all of them simultaneously. These are all (except for the image of God) secondary purposes of symbols, and they are important (just not as important as their

By Kemper Crabb

primary purpose).

Thus, all symbols have multiple meanings, with the primary meaning (that of revealing God's Glory) as the most important one. These meanings all interlock and interact to give nuance and depth to Creation, glowing from inside with the transcendence of God's Glory (the reason why a sunset or a mountain or a rose is beautiful). The problem is that, because of the Fall, sinful man attempts to suppress the knowledge of Creation's primary purpose (the Revelation of God) that God has put in every man's heart (Romans 1:18-23), confusing Creation's secondary meanings with the primary one, and thus escape responsibility before God to live as God demands.

One of the reasons Scripture was given was to clearly restore to men the objective, Spirit-inspired Knowledge that all things primarily symbolize God, indeed, that all secondary meanings are ultimately meaningless unless they do ultimately show forth God. Christ came to restore men to fellowship with God so that men could see God as fully as possible, glorifying Him in all things.

Thus, part of the calling of all Christians is to restore the true, primary meaning of Creation to men so that they might see His Glory, and turn to Him and serve Him. This is especially true for Christian artists, whose main mode of fulfilling their callings is through the use of symbols (whether visual, such as in painting, poetry, prose, photography, or dance; or aural, such as music or speaking, etc.). The next column, by God's will, will be an exploration of how Christian artists should help to do just this.

HM

You can receive Kemper's newsletter and/or order *Vigil/Arkangel/Radiohalo* product by writing to: PO Box 840501, Houston TX 77284-0501.

Copyright © 1995

Kemper B. Crabb II.

All Rights Reserved

Stupid Witnessing Tricks

Of all the things I love about living here in Tennessee, the scenery has to be on top of the list. Every day I take a two-mile walk around the lake and through the trees. It is all so peaceful and beautiful!

At one point in my path, there is a walking bridge that goes across the water. Today, as I walked along the bridge, I noticed that someone had taken the time to chisel some graffiti on top of the wooden railing: "Jesus is real and He's coming soon. Be prepared!" I couldn't believe it! I was very offended. And I was sure that the others who enjoyed walking that bridge weren't too excited about it either. What was this person thinking as they marred public property?

We need to stop and think what we are presenting the world around us. Have we reduced witnessing to a bunch of non-effective techniques? Let me illustrate for you. If I had a talk show, I might call these "Stupid Witnessing Tricks!" See if you find yourself in one of these scenarios...

John has been working up the nerve to talk to one of his fellow workers about Jesus Christ. So far, they think he's a joke. John isn't a very good worker. He just can't seem to keep his mind on his work. John justifies his bad job performance with a need to be concerned about "Heavenly matters." He doesn't seem to have the mental process for "worldly labor." As John walks in the door at work today, he begins to hand everyone a tract, telling them that Jesus loves them, and has a wonderful plan for their lives. His fellow workers are not impressed, and make fun of him for the rest of the day.



John decides to count himself worthy to be persecuted for the name of Jesus Christ.

Jeff has been wearing Christian T-shirts to school every day without fail. He prides himself on his massive collection of "witness wear." Finally, someone asks him what one of the shirts means. Jeff is thrilled. Someone noticed! He can't wait to tell his friends at youth group how God used him in school to witness to a fellow classmate. Jeff requests prayer that more and more people would see his shirts and ask him about their meaning.

Jim is a "Christian rocker." He is always ready to take out a tape at any time for anyone who wants to know about the Lord. He is very excited, because one of the guys at a party liked one of the bands. He quickly went into his discourse about Christian music being just as cool as secular music, and you don't have to give up quality to become a Christian! After all, Christians can have fun, too! You almost expect him to break into song . . . "I'm a Christian, you're a Christian, wouldn't you like to be a Christian too? Be a Christian..."

It seems to me that the world

needs Jesus Christ more all the time, and wants to hear what the average Christian has to say less and less! They want to hear the Truth -- they just don't want to hear it from us! Why have we created such a chasm between the world and the church? Could it be that we are doing it wrong?

The most important scripture in the Bible that deals with evangelism is 1 Peter 3:15-16. Here's what it says: "But in your hearts, set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."

You see, the world is looking for people with a purpose who are changed on the inside. They aren't looking for eternal fuzzies, they want a life change. They need to read your life more than a tract. They need to see your heart more than your shirt! They need to hear a reason for your hope more than your music.

Expose yourself. Don't let your personal relationship with Christ get lost in your techniques! Let your friends see your heart. If they aren't asking the questions, they aren't seeing Christ!

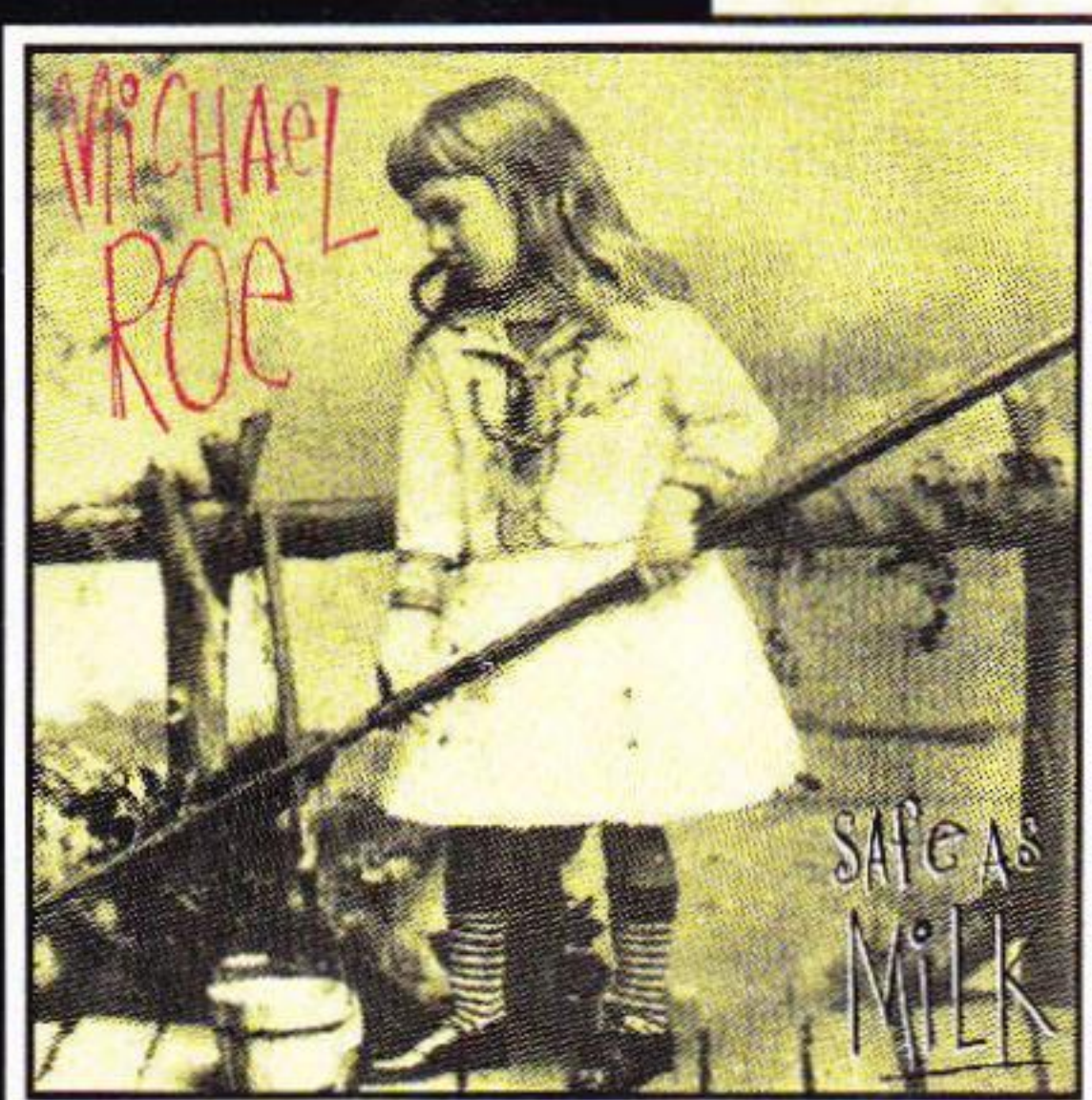
If you have any comments or questions, I'd love to hear from you! Write to me at:

**Pastor Bob's Column
c/o Sanctuary
P.O. Box 23945
Nashville, TN 37202-3945
Need to talk?
Call us at: 1-800-548-5222**

HM

hoi★polloi
happy ever after

michael roe - safe as milk
available now



77's box set
-ping pong over the abyss
-all fall down
-seventy sevens

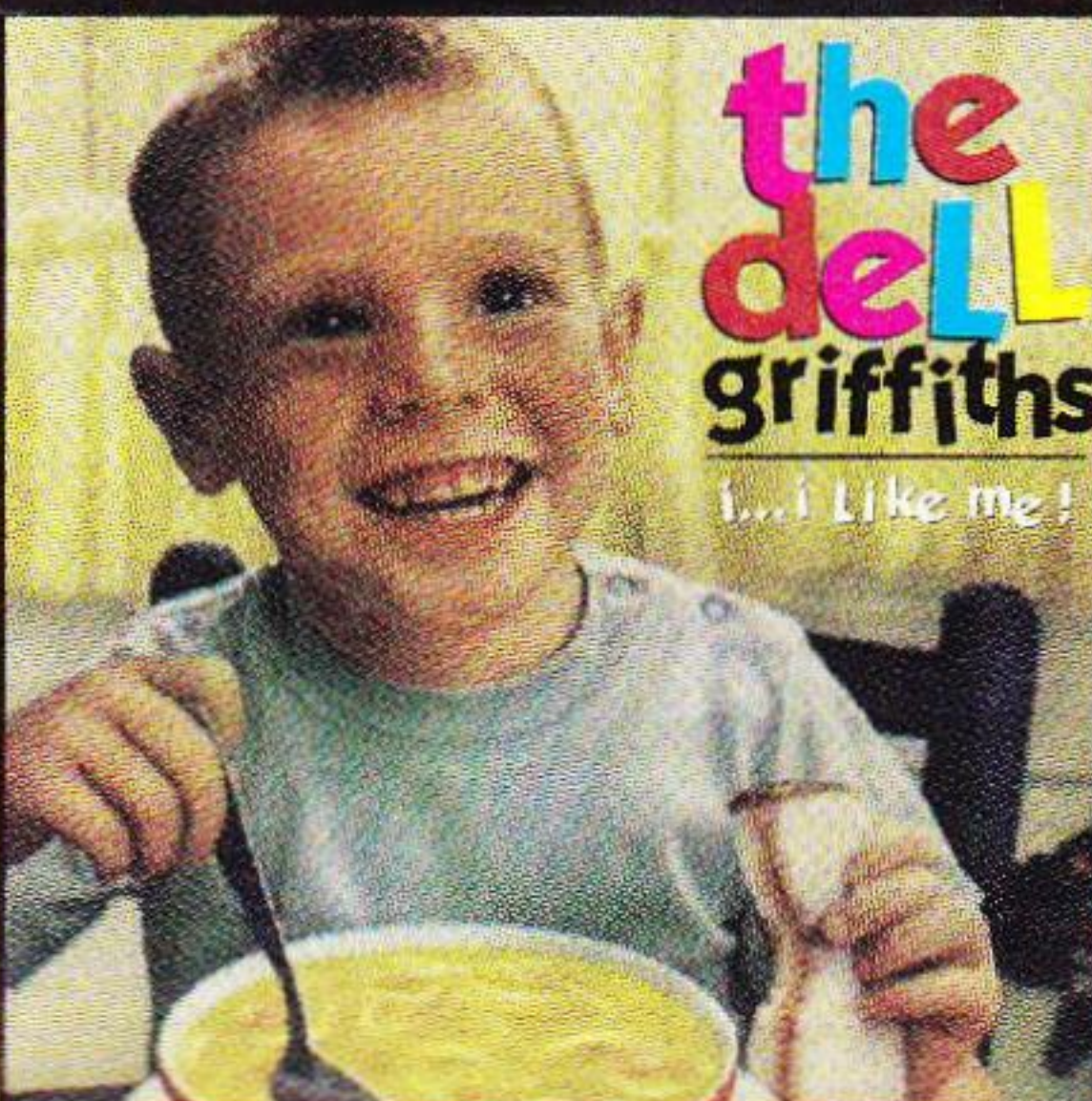
77's

fell venus - @
available now

fell venus



the dell griffiths
- i...i like me
available june 22



black cherry soda
available june 22

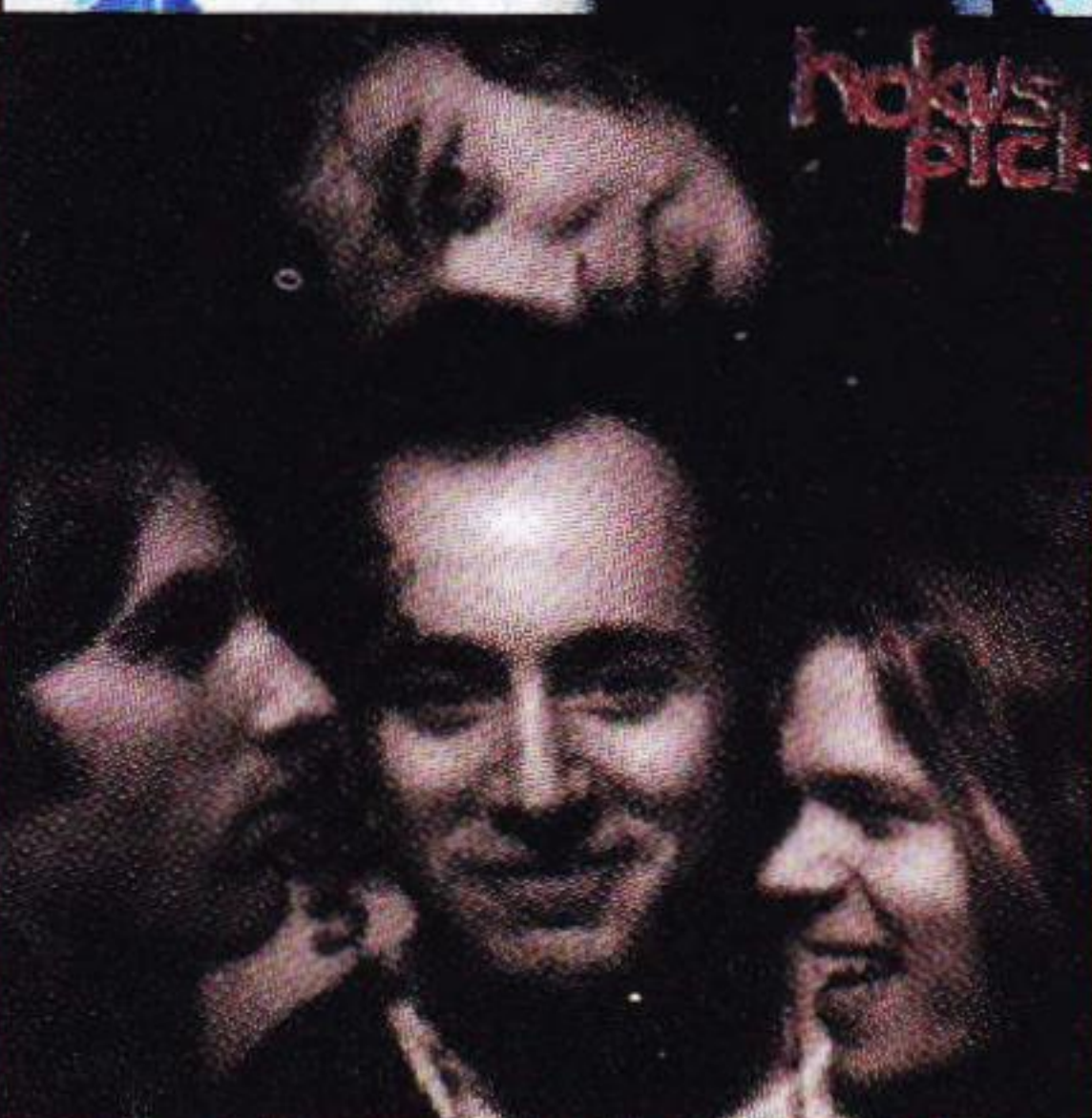


curious fools
available now

CURIOUS FOOLS

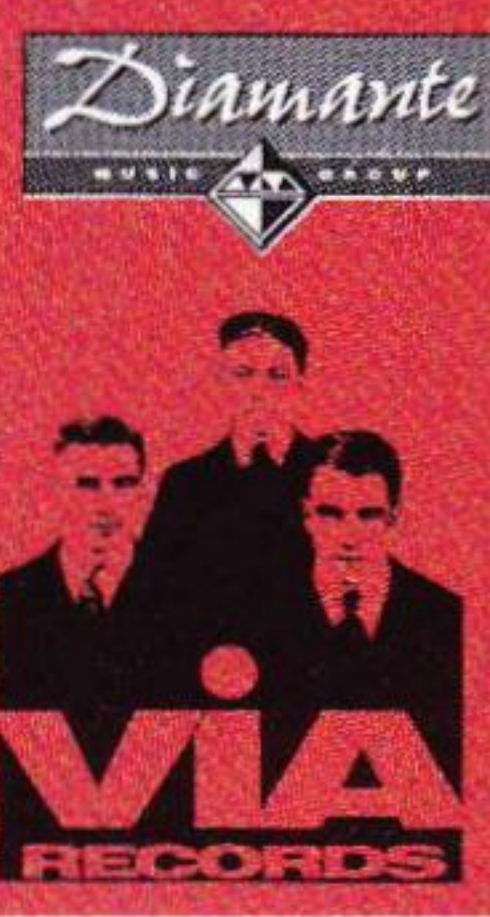


hokus pick
available now



from hoi★polloi
the single "the..."

photos: norman jean roy



via records, inc. 209 10th ave s. #344 nashville, tn 37203 ph 615.742.6342

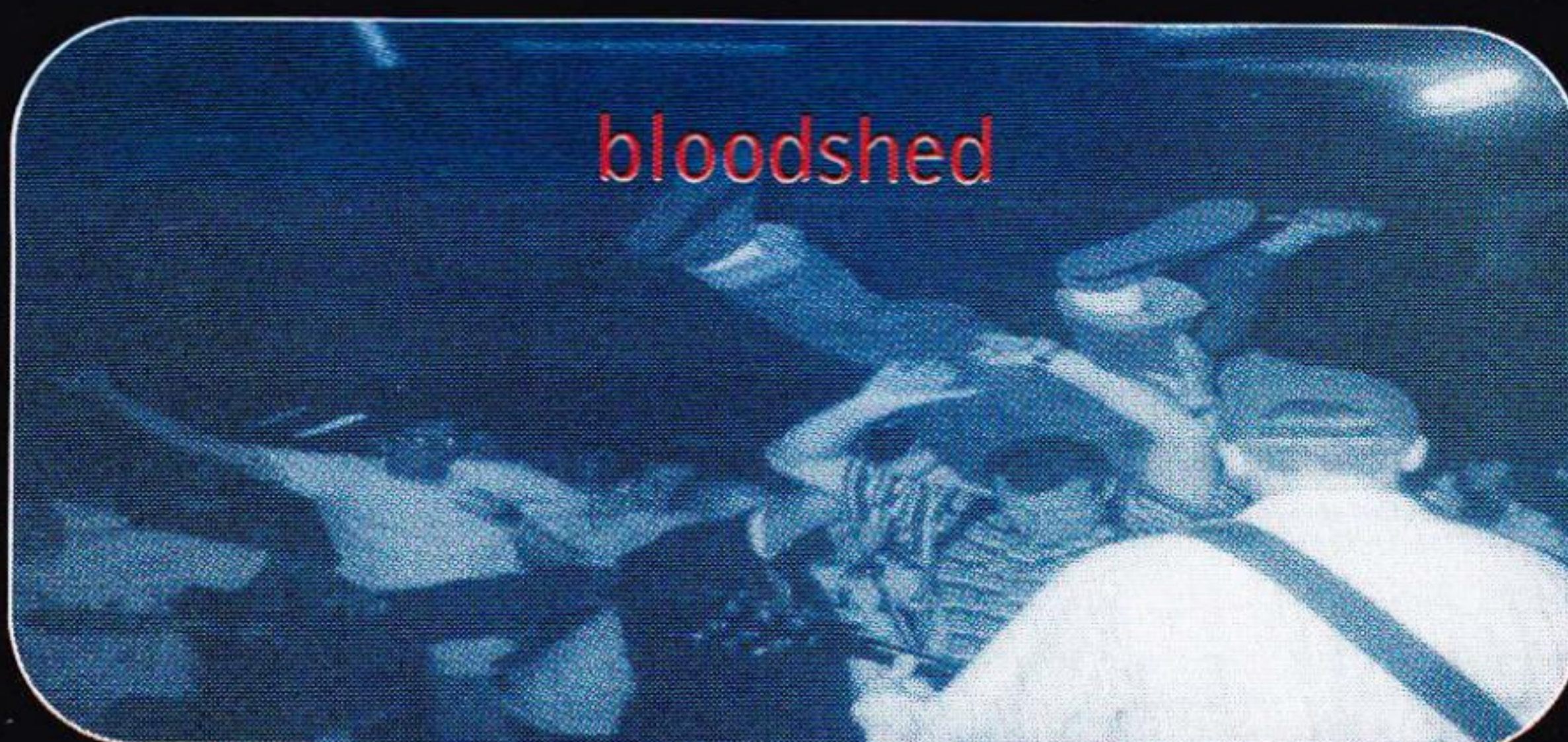
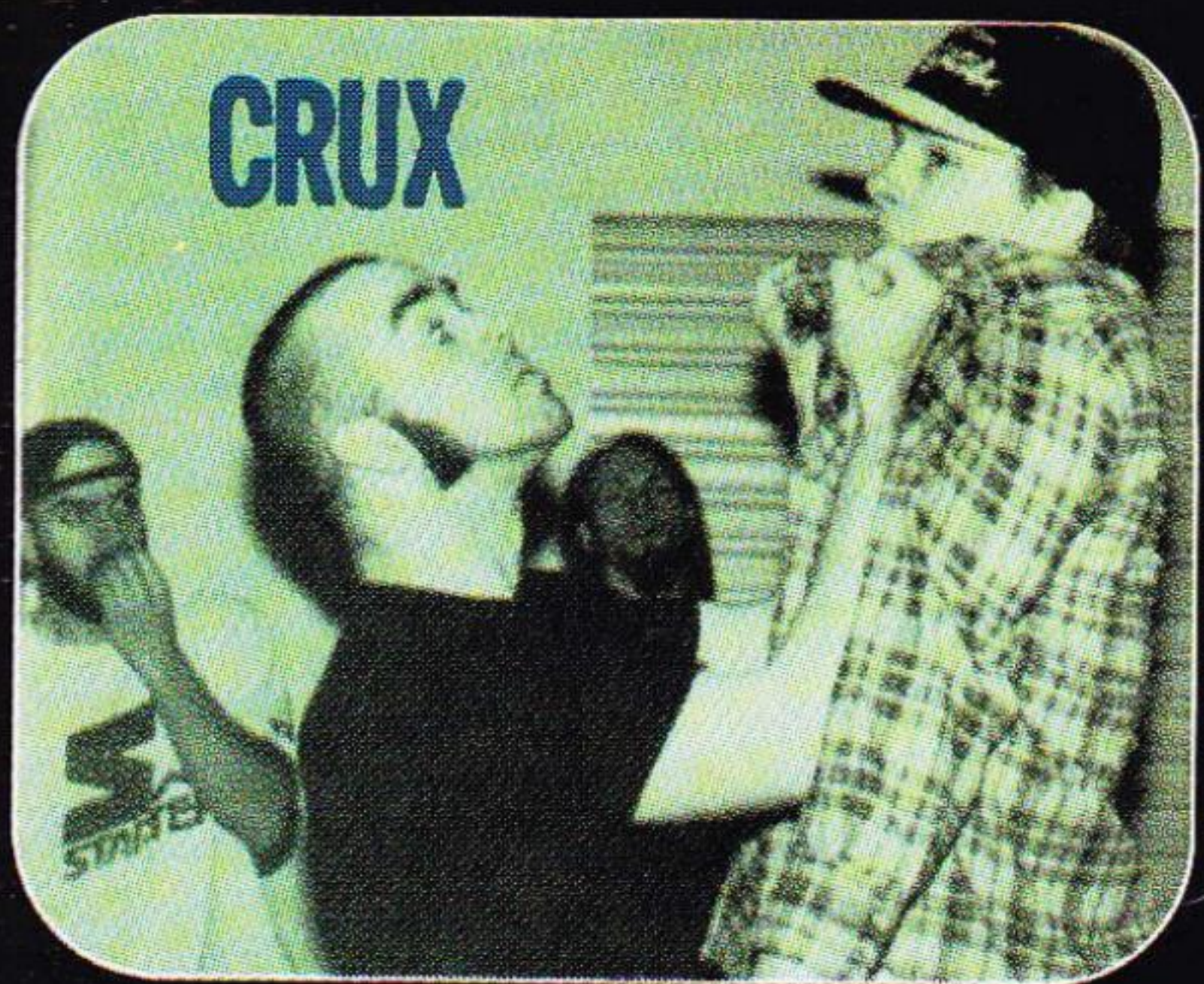
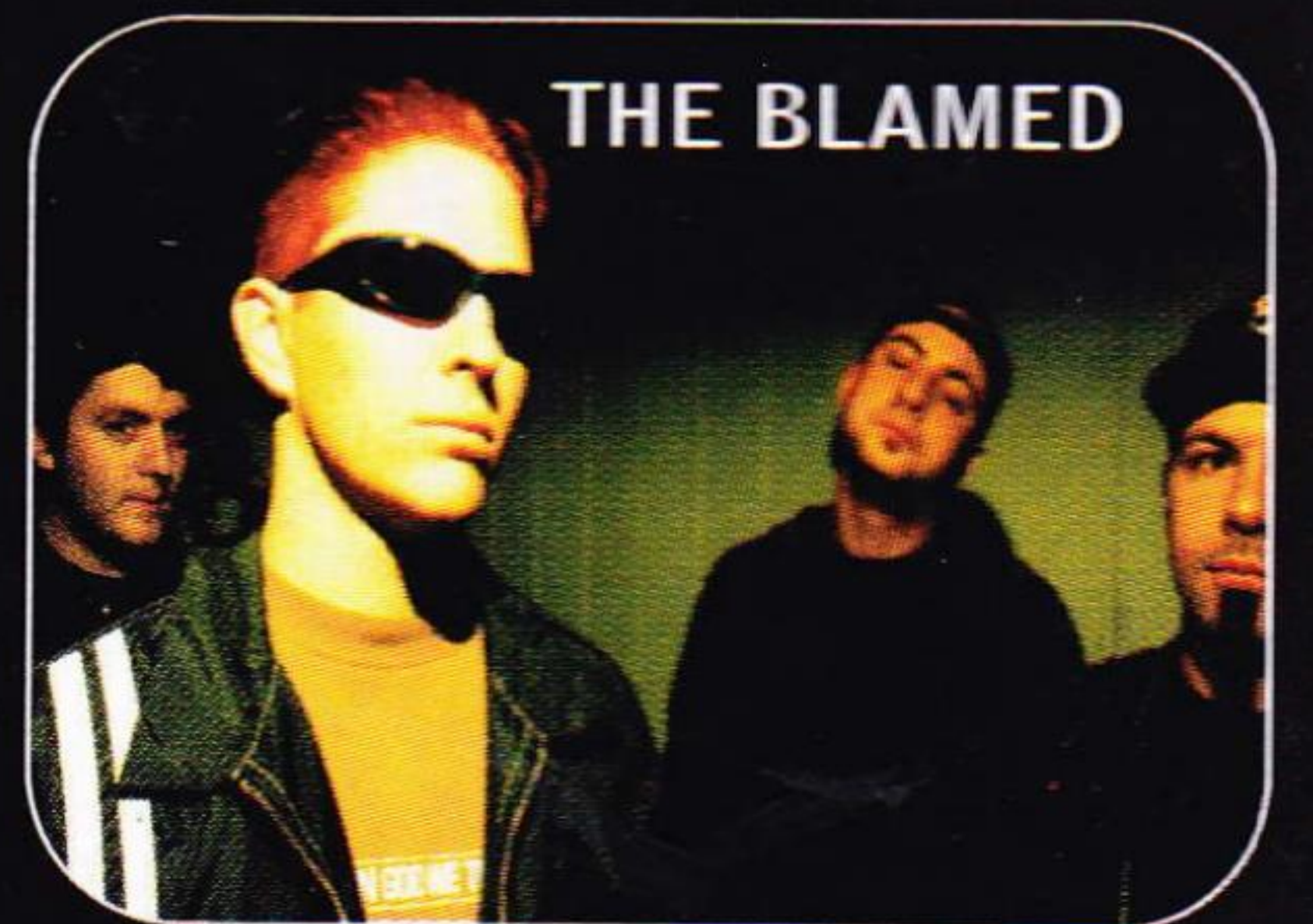
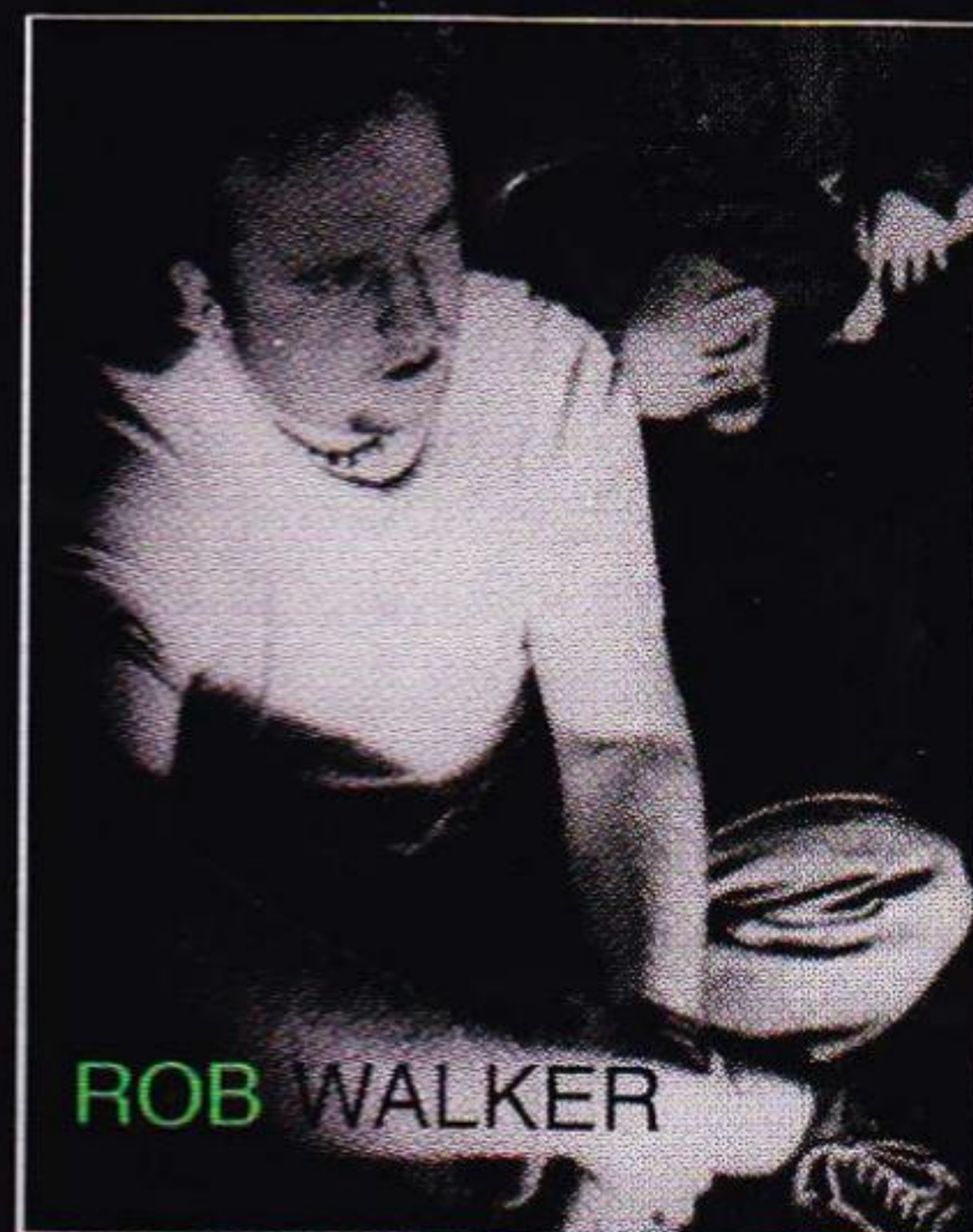
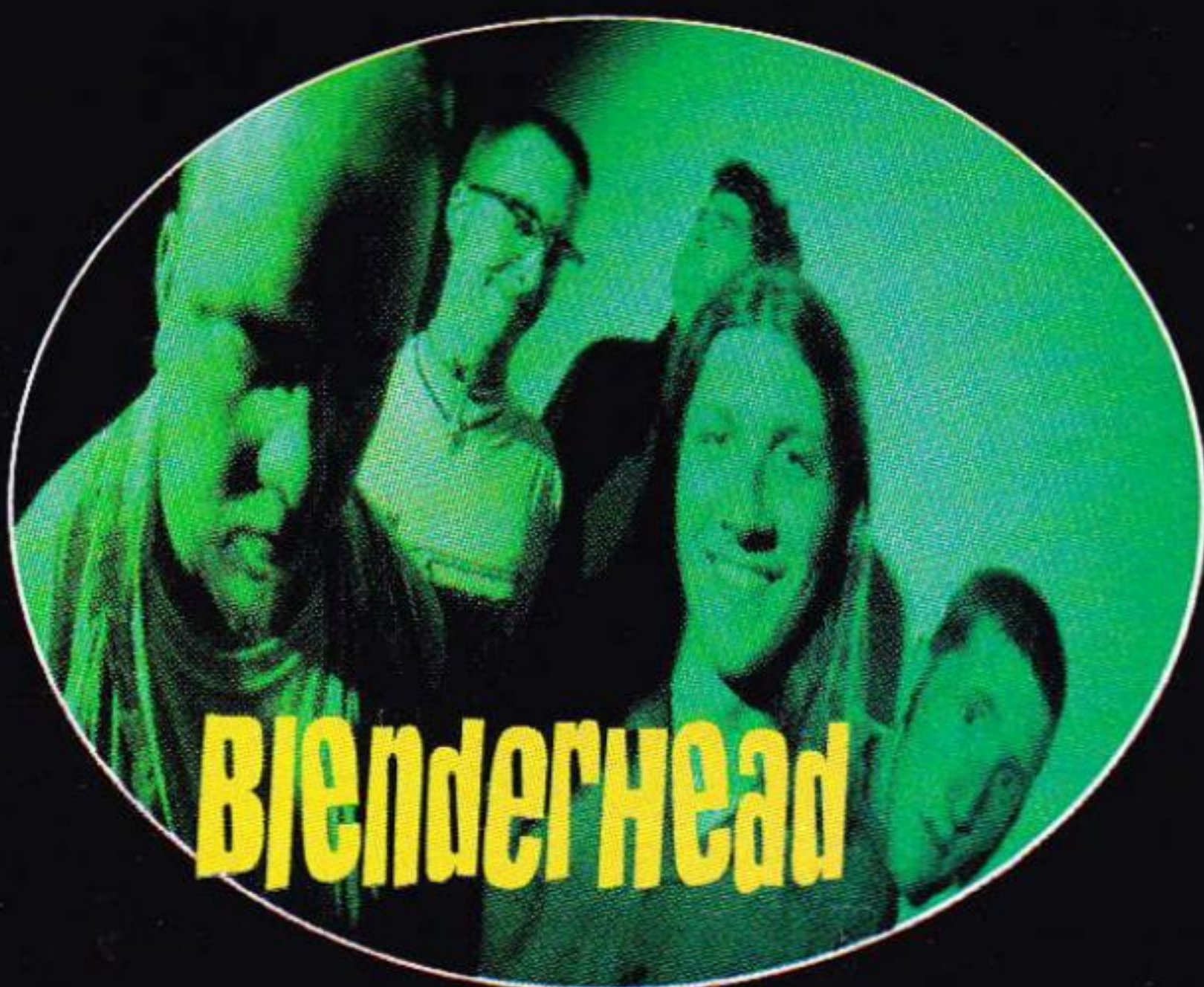
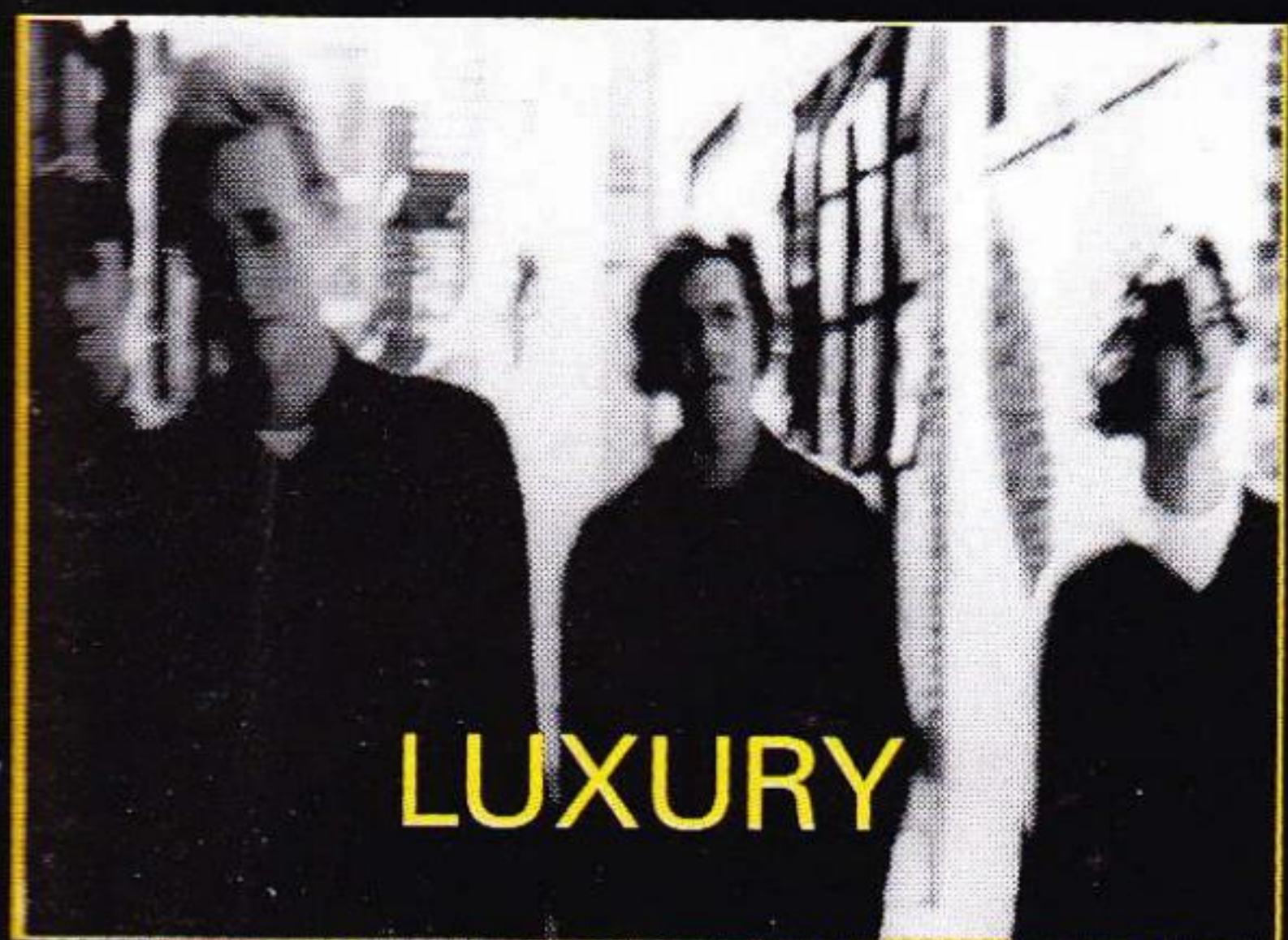
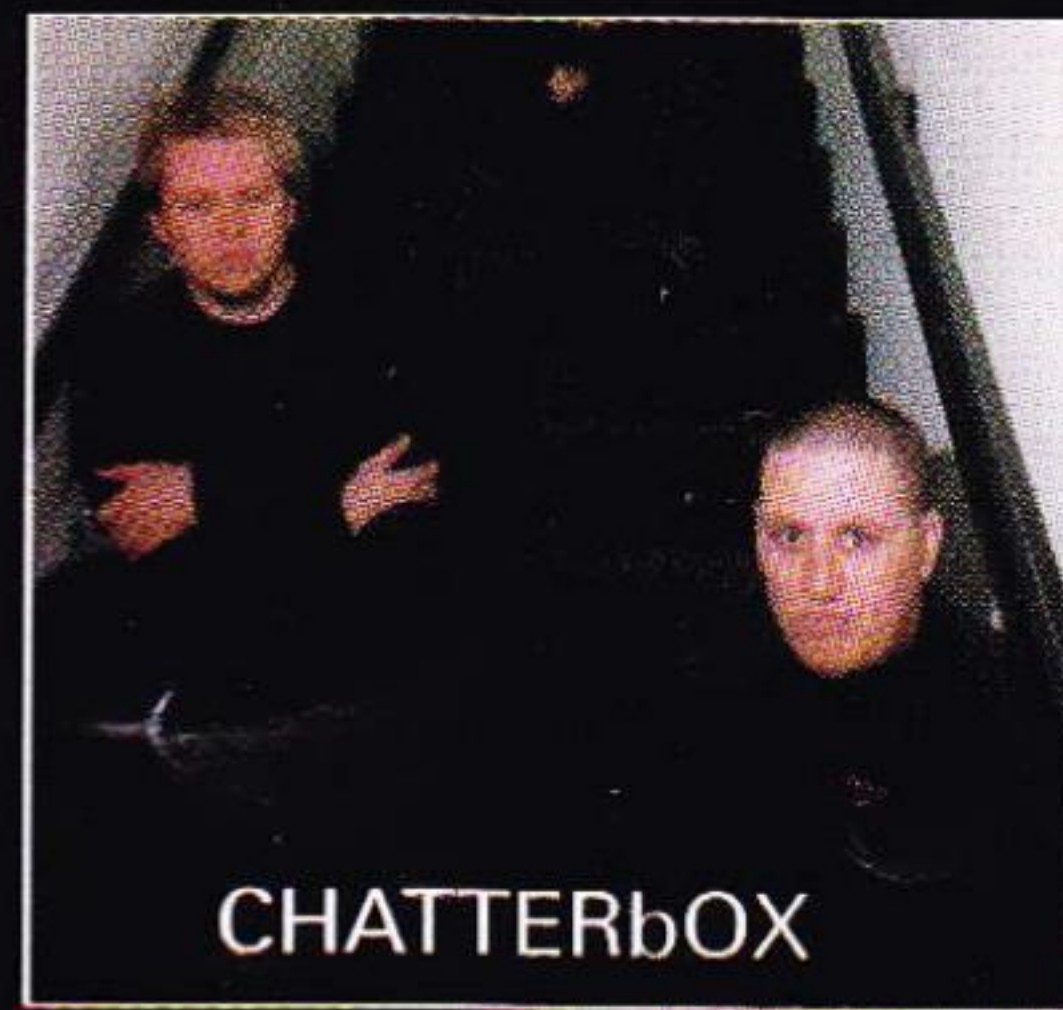
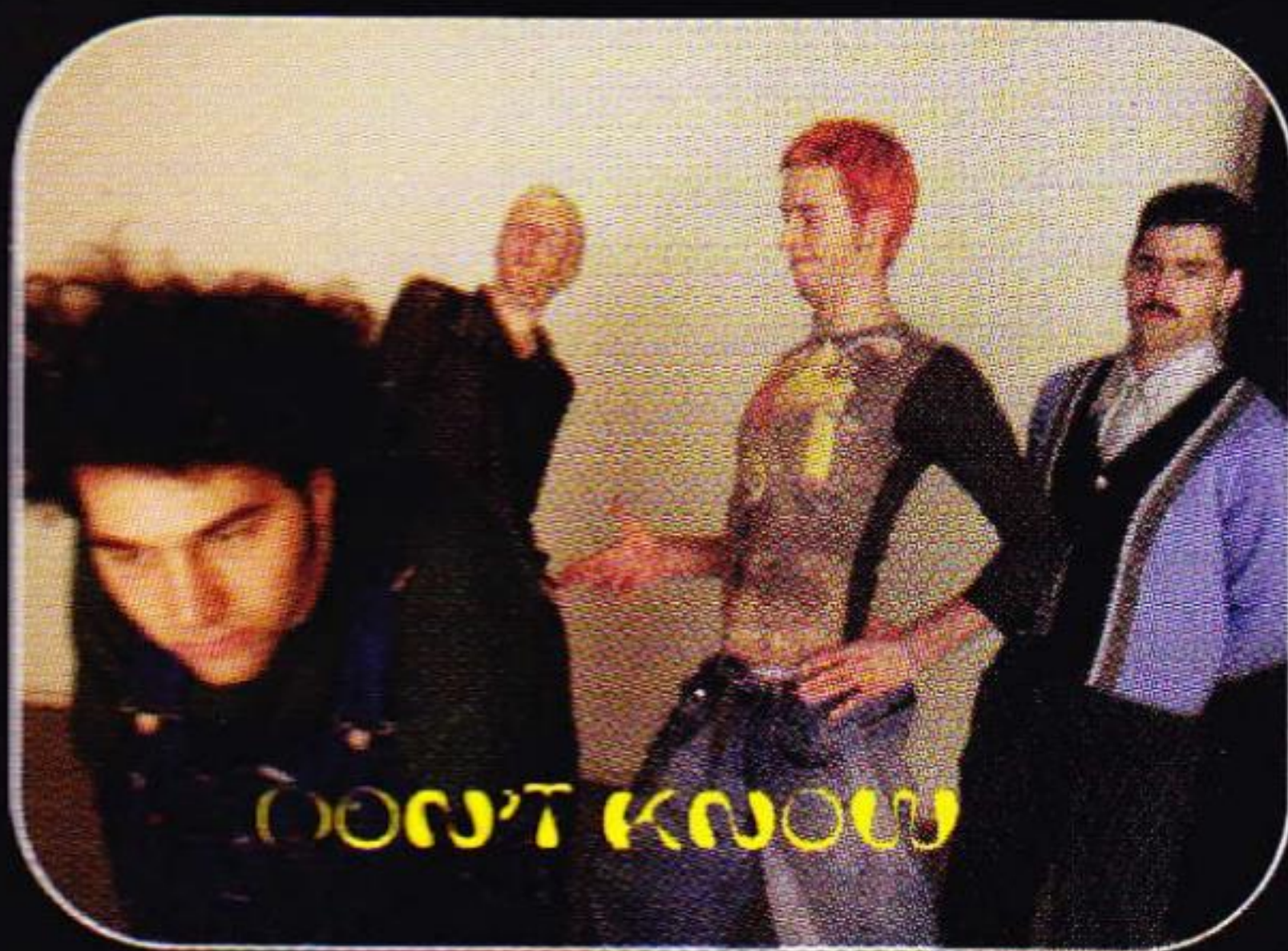
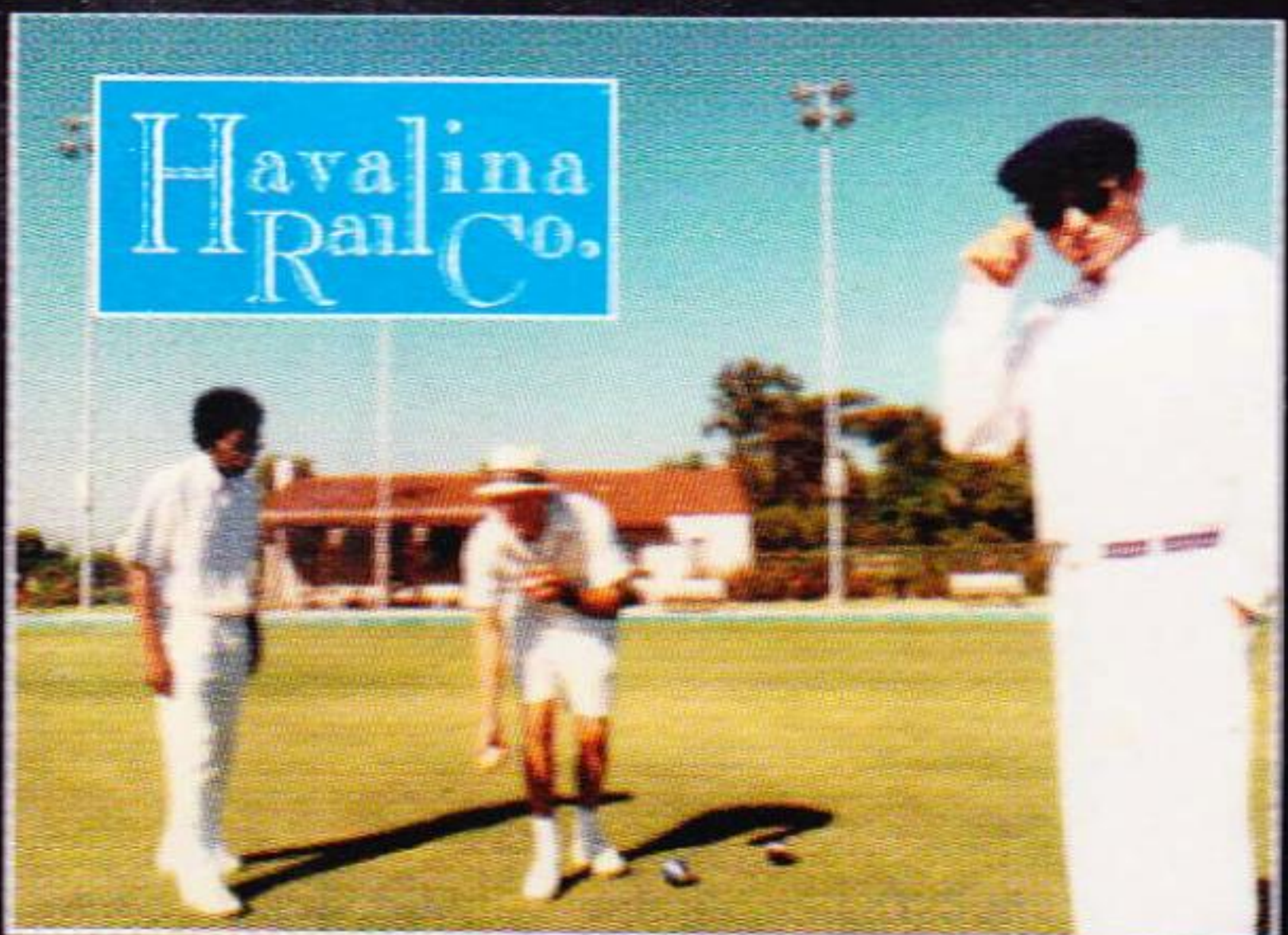
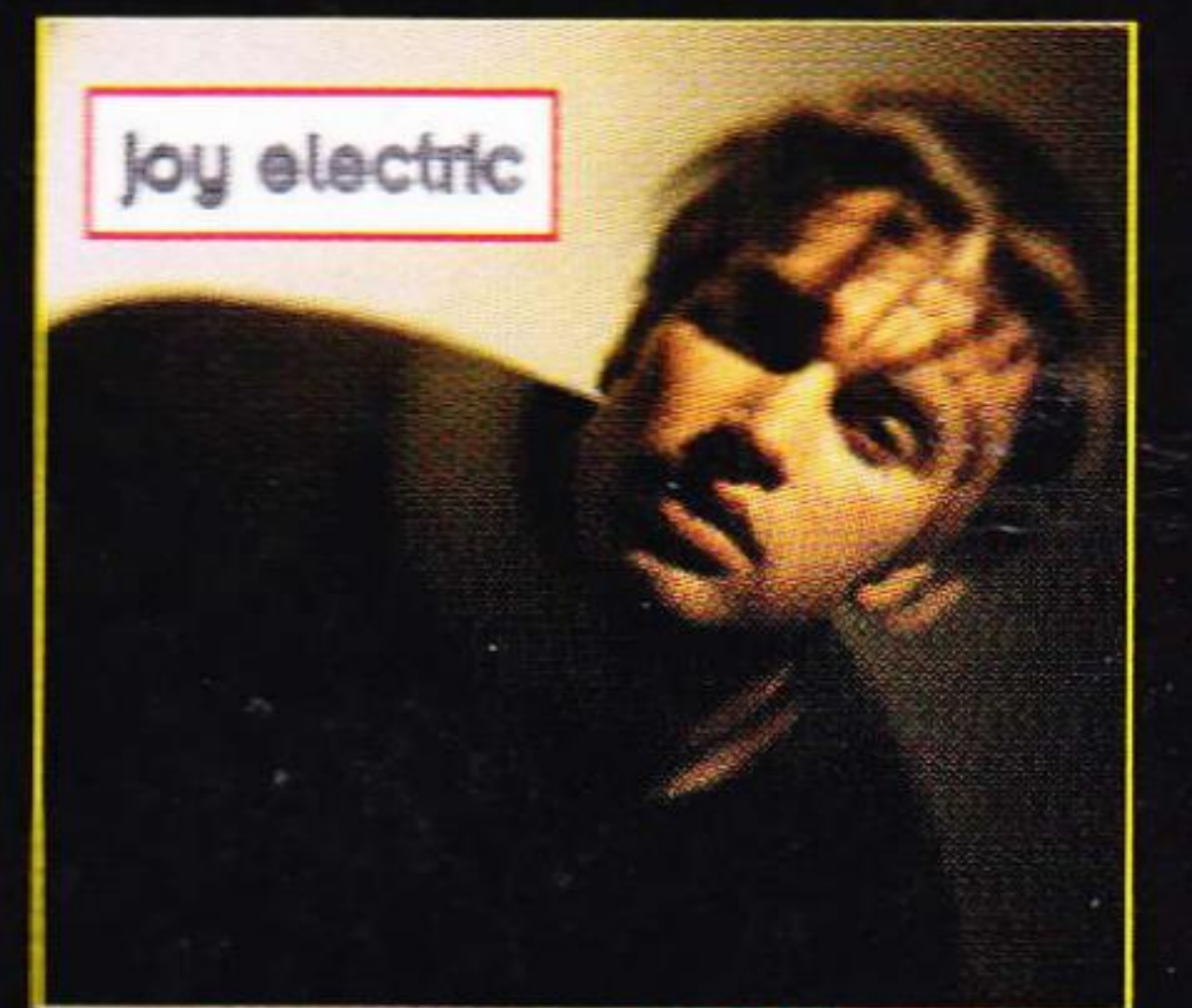
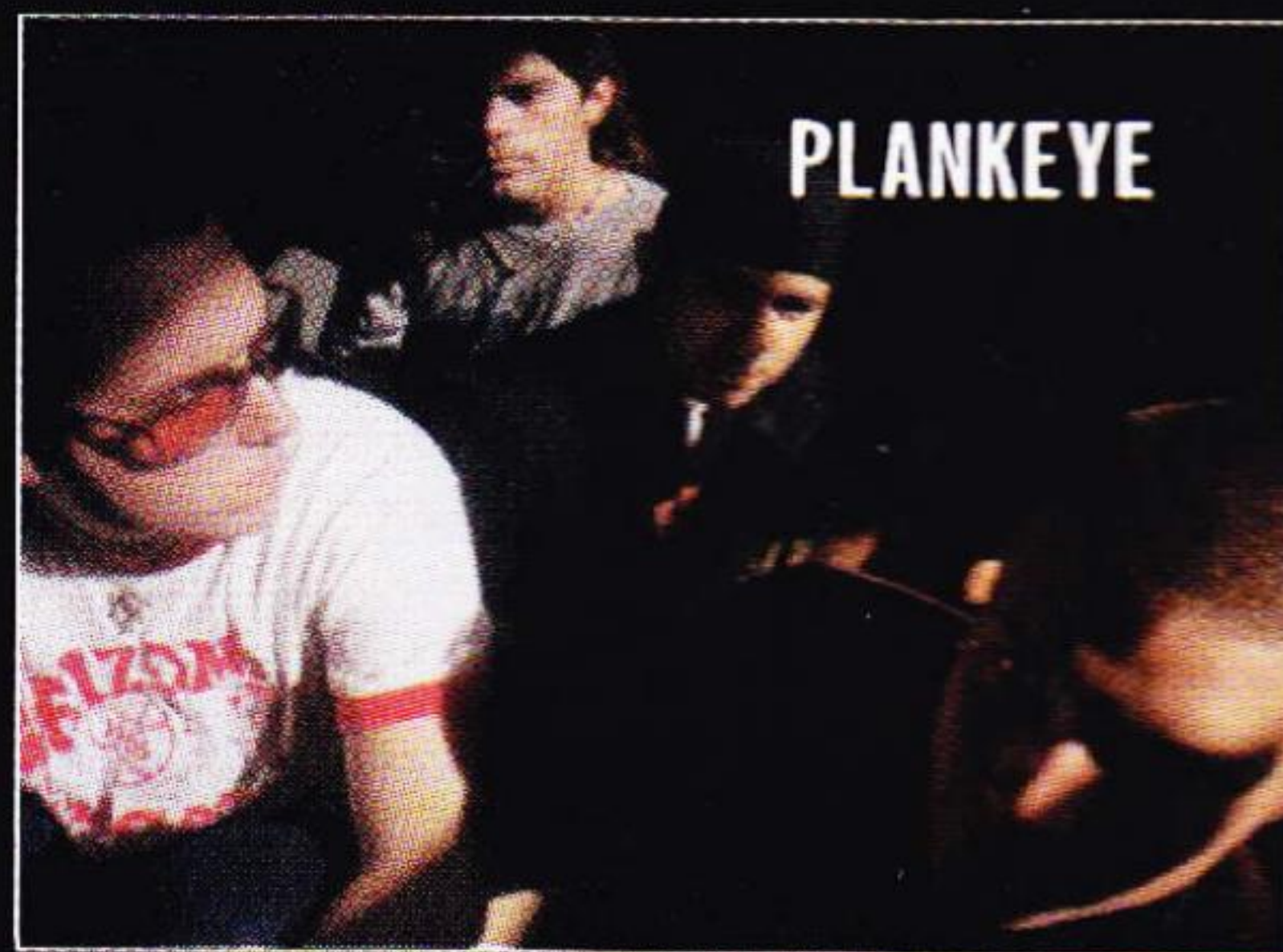
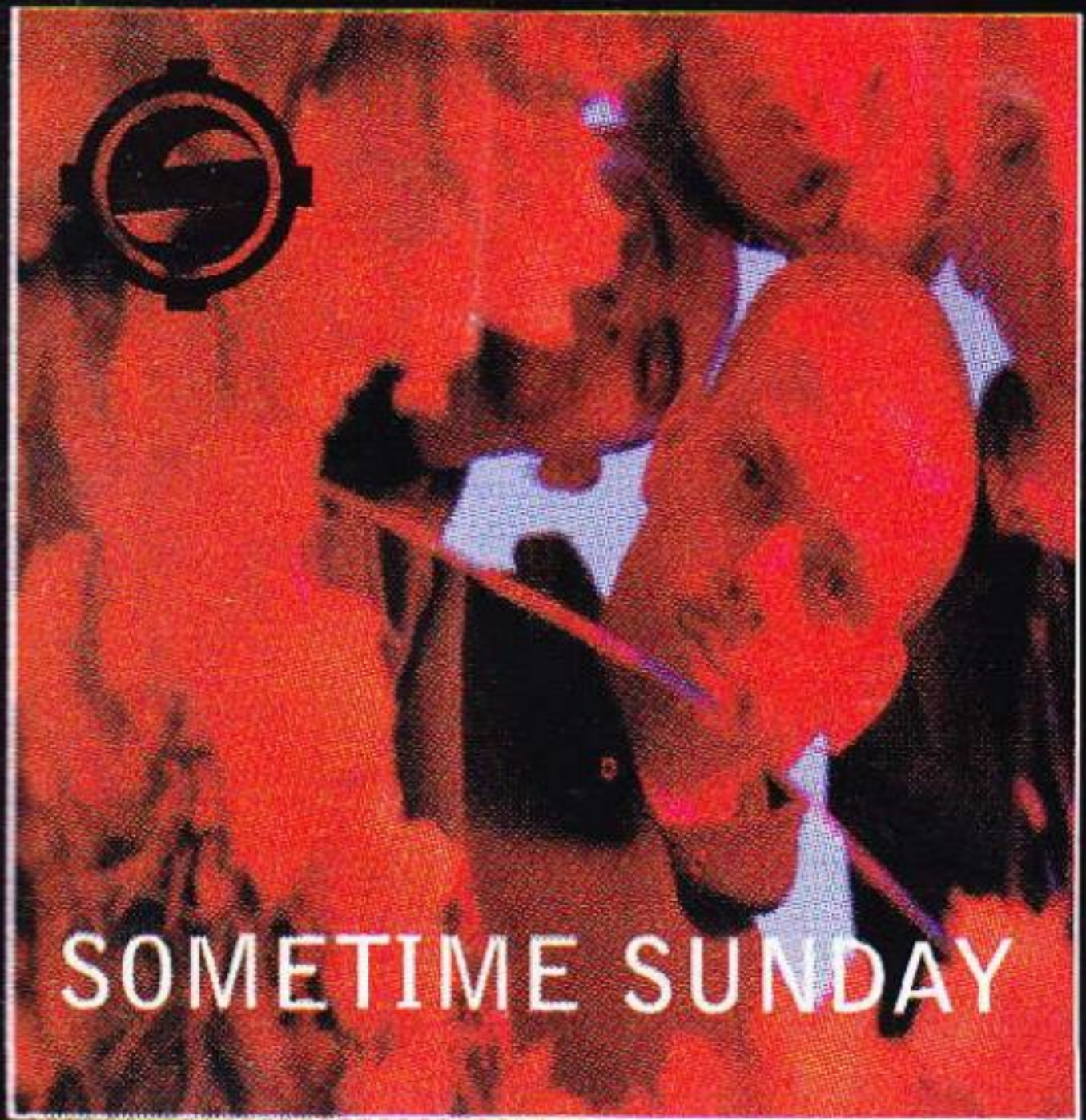
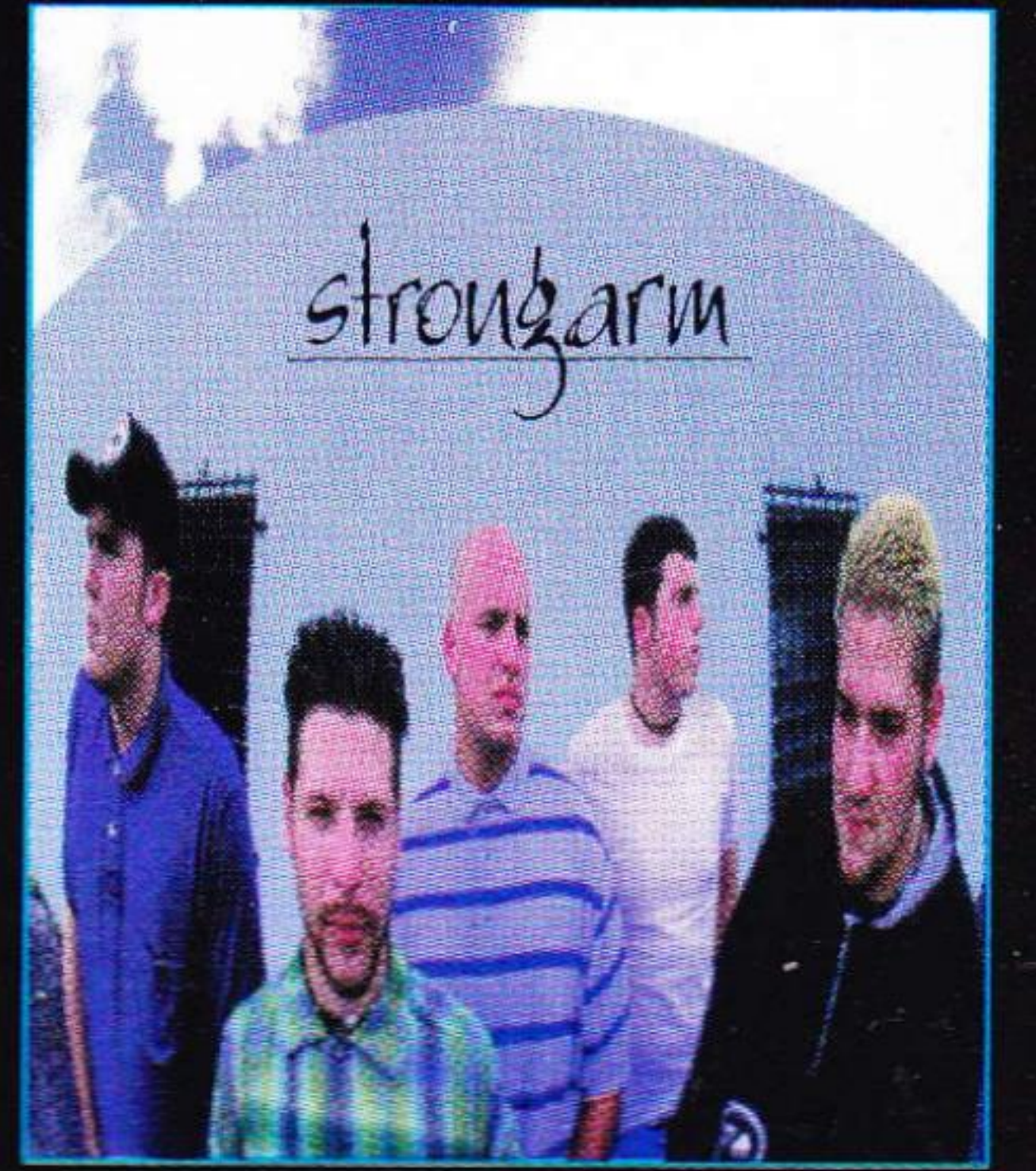
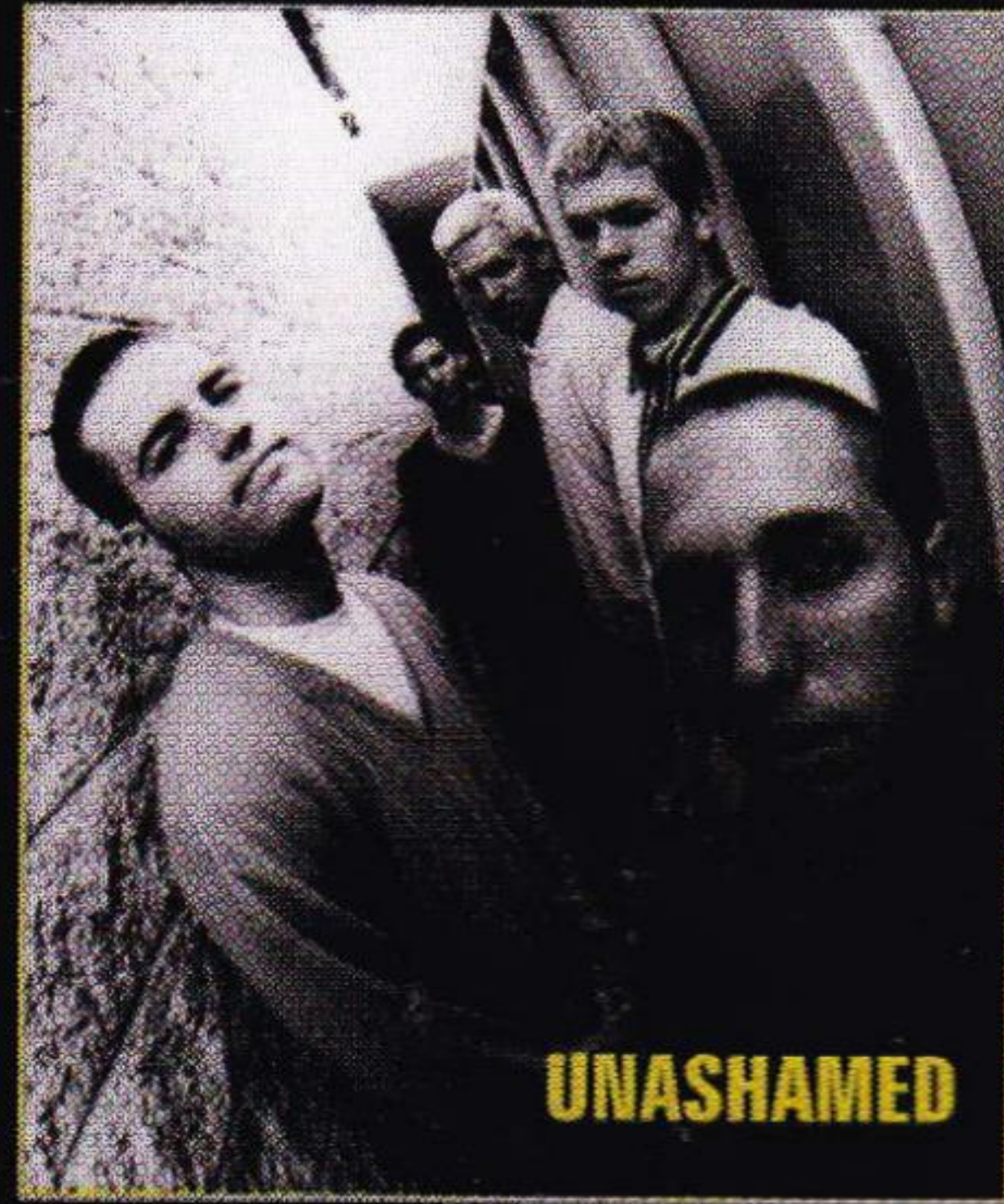
B R I D E

DROP

M A Y 18th



Tooth AND Nail Records



KEEP IT IN THE FAMILY

FOR A FREE MAIL ORDER CATALOG SEND A 32 CENT STAMP TO TOOTH & NAIL STUFF P.O. BOX 12698 SEATTLE, WA 98111-4698 or call 206-728-7025 visa/matercard

TOOTH
& NAIL
RECORDS

BEC

Diamond



BACK BITING!

Have you ever felt the sting of people talking behind your back? Did it hurt your feelings when you trusted someone with some private information and it became public? Do you think that Christians don't ever gossip? Do you think that sometimes Christians gossip more than others you know? Doesn't it seem inherently wrong to betray someone and talk about them when they're not around?

Does the Bible say anything about gossip?

You bet it does! All throughout the Bible there are examples that show God's plan when it comes to dealing with mistakes and wrong-doing. In Genesis, we see God getting upset when the sons of Noah tell each other about their father passing out naked and drunk. In the New Testament Jesus gives us a blueprint for dealing with other people's mistakes: "If a brother sins against you, go to him in private. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over." Notice that the first step in God's plan for confronting sin is done in private? God doesn't want to broadcast your sin over a loud speaker! He wants to forgive you in private!

How do you think it makes God feel when we talk bad about someone else? Whenever you talk bad about someone else behind their back, you are acting more like Satan than you are like Jesus. Satan is called the "accuser of the brethren," while the Bible says that Jesus is at the right hand of the Father, continually praying for us.

If that's not enough to keep you from spreading gossip next time it comes your way, why don't you try applying the Golden Rule? Would you like people talking this way about you? Wouldn't you rather have someone step up in your defense and say, "Hey! This is gossip! Let's stop right now?"

Back biting is killing our relationships. If you want to have healthy relationships, and you really want to promote love, you have to build trust. Back biting is the enemy of trust. We can't force anyone else to trust us, nor can we stop anyone from back biting, but we can certainly stop ourselves. So, think twice about it the next time you feel the urge to spread some juicy gossip or bring up someone else's mistake...